Livestock and Meat Situation

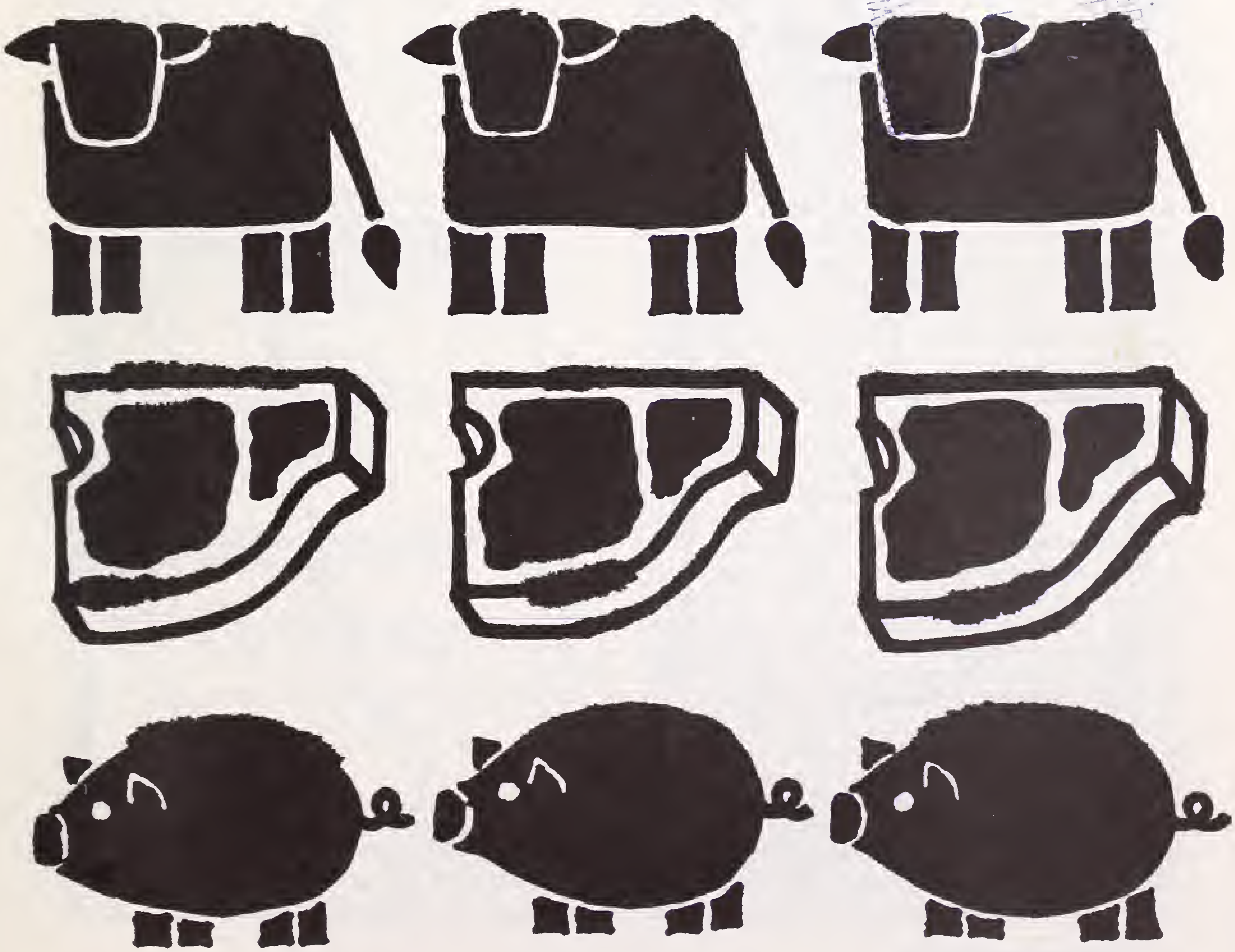
Economics, Statistics,
and Cooperatives Service

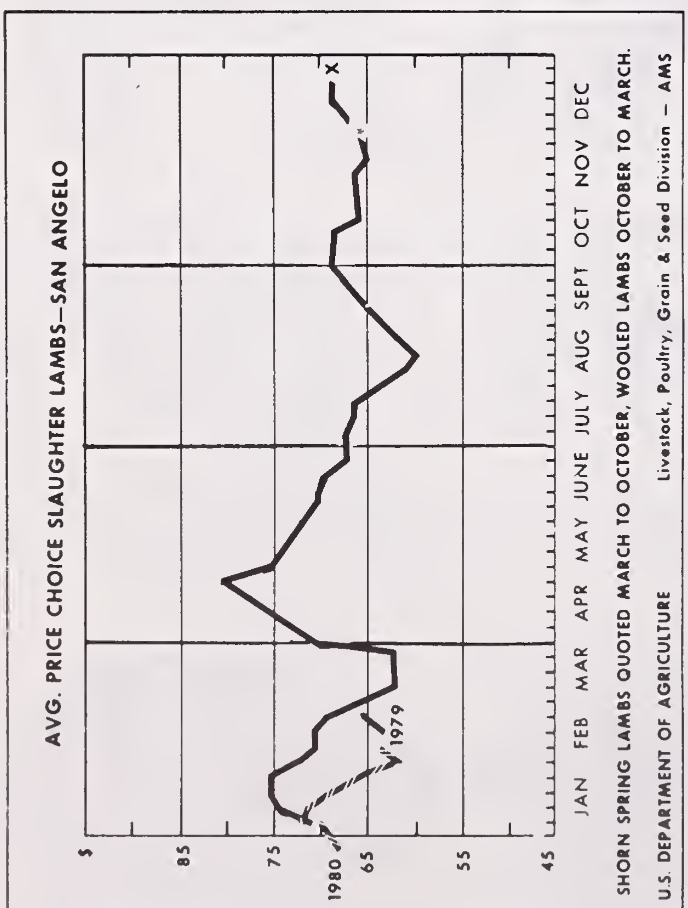
U.S. Department of
Agriculture

LMS-232

FEBRUARY
1980

Approved by the
World Food and
Agricultural Outlook
and Situation Board




AVG. PRICE CHOICE SLAUGHTER LAMBS—SAN ANGELO
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JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUNE JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC
SHORN SPRING LAMBS QUOTED MARCH TO OCTOBER, WOOLED LAMBS OCTOBER TO MARCH.
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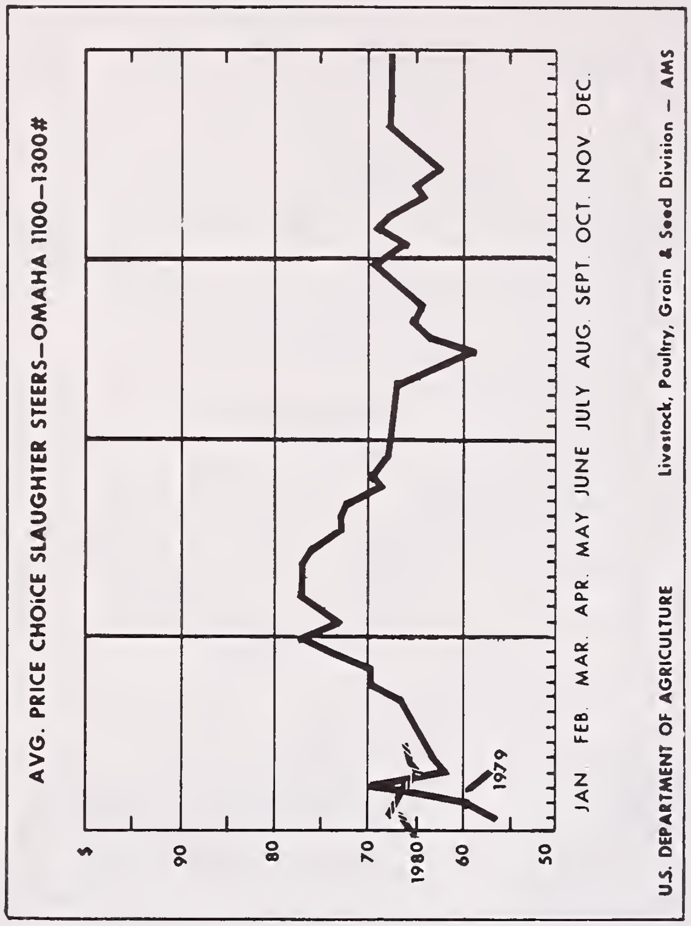
AVG. PRICE CHOICE SLAUGHTER STEERS—OMAHA 1100-1300#
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90
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70
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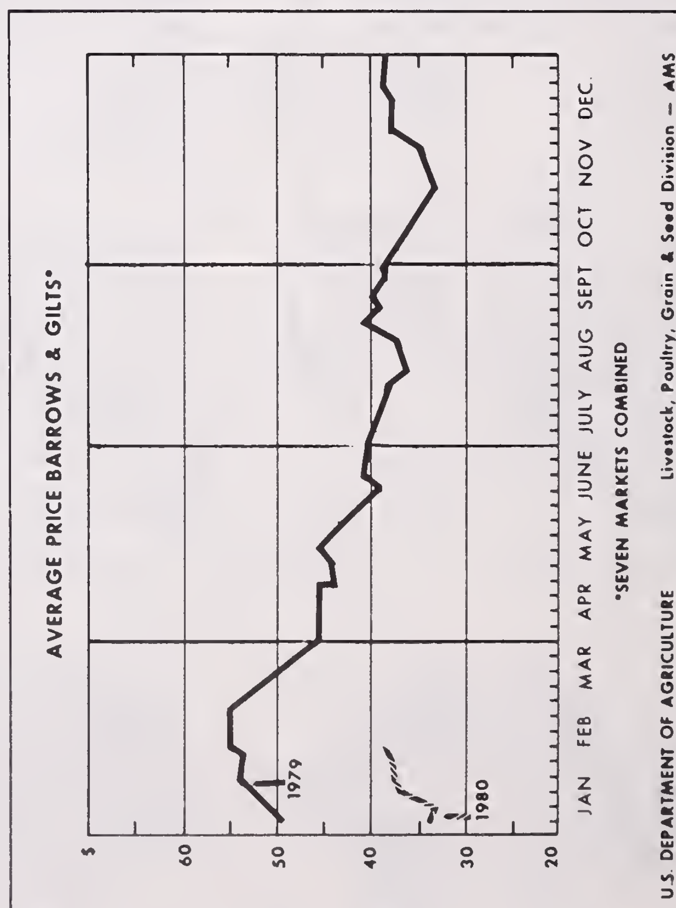
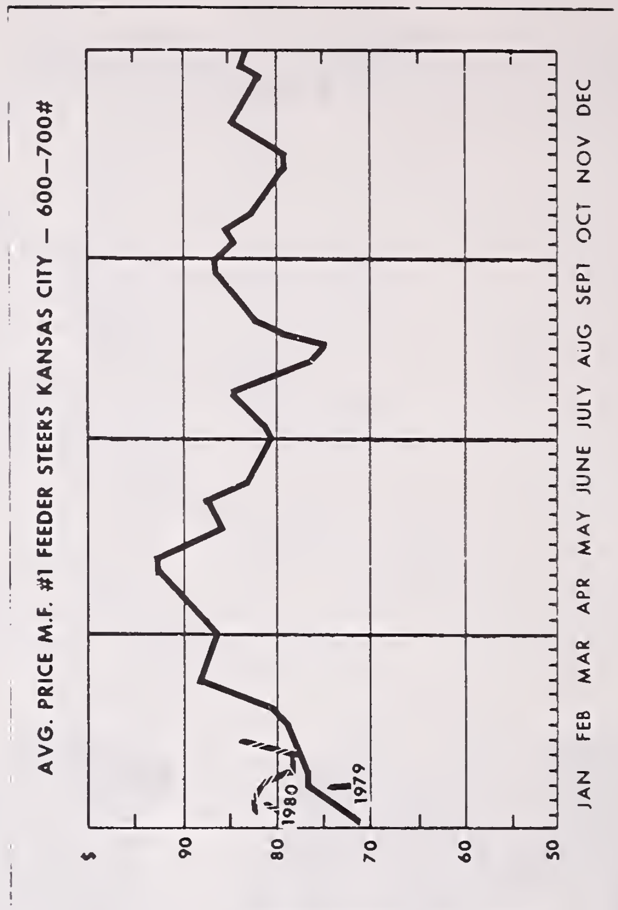
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Livestock, Poultry, Grain & Seed Division — AMS


AVERAGE PRICE BARROWS & GILTS*
$
60
50
40
30
20
1979
1980
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUNE JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC
*SEVEN MARKETS COMBINED
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Livestock, Poultry, Grain & Seed Division — AMS


AVG. PRICE M.F. #1 FEEDER STEERS KANSAS CITY — 600-700#
$
90
80
70
60
50
1980
1979
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUNE JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

CONTENTS

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Quarterly issues of the *Livestock and Meat Situation* will be published in February, May, August, and November. Additional issues containing summary tables will be published in January, April, July, and October.

SUMMARY

Following four years of inventory decline, the liquidation phase of the 1970's cattle cycle has apparently ended. This was the largest reduction in cattle numbers since records began. From January 1, 1975 to January 1, 1979 the cattle and calf inventory declined 21.1 million head, a 16-percent reduction. The January 1, 1980 cattle inventory totaled nearly 111 million head, up only 100,000 head from 1979.

Beef supplies in 1980 are expected to decline another 2 to 4 percent from 1979 level, marking the fourth consecutive year of decline. However, pork and poultry supplies are each expected to increase 4 to 6 percent, more than offsetting declining beef supplies. Total red meat and poultry supplies are expected to increase about 1 percent in 1980. Total supplies are expected to approximate the record levels of 1976 and 1977.

Recent changes in supply and demand factors have altered the 1980 outlook for the red meat and poultry sector. Beef cow numbers were down slightly on January 1, 1980 to about 37 million head, despite a 30-percent reduction in cow slaughter in 1979. Cattle numbers have leveled off, but the expansion will not begin until increased numbers of replacement heifers enter the cow herd. Producers indicated they were holding back 5.9 million beef replacement heifers on January 1, 1980, an 8-percent increase over 1979.

The January 1, 1980 cattle on feed report indicated a large number of heavy cattle were on feed. Fed cattle marketings in the first quarter are expected to be only about 5 percent below year-earlier marketings. Increased slaughter weights may hold first quarter beef production near fourth quarter 1979 levels and only slightly below year-earlier levels. The report also indicated sharply lower marketing prospects for the second quarter with the number of cattle on feed in the middle weight groups down 10 to 15 percent from a year earlier. However, placements of heavier yearlings in the first quarter are expected to narrow this gap. Second-quarter beef production is expected to be 2 to 4 percent below 1979 levels and about 9 percent

below first quarter 1980 levels. Choice fed steer prices are expected to average in the upper $60's in the first quarter before increasing to the lower $70's in the second quarter.

Federally inspected hog slaughter during the first 6 weeks of 1980 was up 26 percent from a year earlier. Dressed weights during this period averaged 3 pounds above a year ago. Year-to-year increases in hog slaughter may taper off later in the quarter, so commercial pork production may be near 4.1 billion pounds in the first quarter, up 21 percent from 1979. Hog slaughter may decline slightly in the second quarter but should be 8 to 10 percent above year ago levels. Hog prices are expected to average in the upper $30's in both the first and second quarters.

Average annual retail beef prices are expected to increase another 10 to 12 percent in 1980, about one-half the 1979 increase as larger pork and broiler supplies help moderate the year-to-year increase. Retail pork prices are expected to average about the same as in 1979, $1.44 per pound. Broiler prices are expected to increase only slightly this year. Increases in total red meat and poultry prices may be greatest in the second half of the year as the general economic situation improves.

SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

COMMERCIAL MEAT PRODUCTION AND PRICES

(All percent changes shown are from a year earlier)

	1979		1980			
	I	II	III	IV	I[1]	II[1]
Production						
Beef	5,546	5,076	5,219	5,412	5,400	4,925
% change	-9	-15	-12	-10	-3	-3
Pork	3,399	3,760	3,779	4,352	4,100	4,075
% change	+5	+15	+20	+23	+21	+8
Lamb and Mutton	72	71	68	72	75	70
% change	-4	-7	-7	-5	+4	-1
Veal	115	98	99	101	90	75
% change	-35	-34	-29	-25	-22	-23
Total red meat	9,132	9,005	9,165	9,937	9,665	9,145
% change	-5	-4	-1	+1	+6	+2
Broilers[2]	2,551	2,844	2,855	2,665	2,675	2,950
% change	+10	+12	+11	+9	+5	+4
Turkeys[2]	271	465	720	725	350	560
% change	+19	+16	+6	+7	+29	+20
Total red meat & poultry	11,954	12,314	12,740	13,327	12,690	12,655
% change	-2	0	+2	+3	+6	+3
Prices				$/cwt.		
Choice steers, Omaha, 900-1100 lb.	65.42	72.51	65.88	66.86	66-68	71-75
Barrows & Gilts, 7 markets	51.98	43.04	38.52	36.39	37-39	37-39
Slaughter lambs, Choice San Angelo	68.97	73.55	64.30	66.50	68-70	74-76
				Cts./lb.		
Broilers, 9-city average[3]	47.5	47.7	40.8	41.7	44-46	44-46
Turkeys, New York[4]	70.2	66.2	63.1	73.0	59-61	56-60

[1] Forecast. [2] Federally inspected. [3] Wholesale weighted average. [4] Wholesale, 8-16 lb. young hens.

FEED AND GRAZING PROSPECTS

Feed grain production in 1979 was a record large 234 million metric tons, 8 percent more than the previous record set in 1978. Carryover stocks of 46 million metric tons and 1979 production raised the 1979/80 supply to a record 280 million tons, 8 percent more than 1978/79.

The record 7,764 million bushel corn crop accounted for most of the increase in feed grain production. Corn acreage harvested was 1 percent greater than 1978. Average yield per acre was sharply higher at 109.4 bushels per acre in 1979, compared to 100.8 bushels in 1978. Corn supplies in 1979/80 are record large at 10 percent above last year's record supply.

Grain sorghum production of 814 million bushels was 9 percent larger than the 1978-crop and the largest crop since 1973. Sorghum yields in 1979 were a record high 62.9 bushels per acre and offset a decline in acreage from 1978. However, because of a smaller carryover from 1978, sorghum supplies of 973 million bushels are only slightly larger than the 939 million bushel supply in 1978.

Feed grain prices in 1979/80 are expected to average higher than last year despite the record large supply. The farm price of corn will average \$2.25 to \$2.45 per bushel, compared with \$2.25 in 1978/79; grain sorghum \$2.15 to \$2.35, compared with \$2.02; barley \$2.25 to \$2.35, compared with \$1.92; and oats \$1.30 to \$1.40, compared with \$1.19.

Favorable weather through late January in most areas of the country reduced feeding needs and livestock were generally rated in good condition. However, subnormal temperatures near the end of January and early February slowed grass growth in the south and increased the need for supplemental feeding in most other regions.

Hay stocks on farms January 1, 1980 were 107 million tons, 9 percent above the previous record set in 1979. Hay disappearance from May 1, 1979 to January 1, 1980, was a record high 69 million tons, 1 percent more than the previous record set in 1978. These figures reflect a liberal hay feeding in 1979 particularly considering the smaller cattle inventory, and favorable grazing and weather conditions last fall.

Hay stocks increased in 36 States during the year. Lower stocks were recorded primarily in the Northwest and New England areas. Average hay prices received by farmers averaged \$60.50 a ton in January, compared to \$48.90 a year ago.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SUPPLIES

Continued declines in beef production in 1980 will be more than offset by expanded hog and poultry production. Beef supplies are expected to decline another 2 to 4 percent in 1980, while poultry and pork supplies each increase by about 4 to 6 percent. Total red meat and poultry supplies are expected to increase about 1 percent in 1980, about 3 pounds per person. Much of the year-to-year increase will occur in the first half of the year with the greatest increases occurring in the first quarter.

CATTLE

Recent changes in supply and demand factors have altered the 1980 outlook for the beef sector. The short term outlook has been altered by the slow fed cattle marketing pace of late 1979 and the continued large supply of very heavy cattle. In addition, the recession that is expected in the first half of 1980 will result in real income declining. The greatest decline in real income is expected in the second quarter.

The longer-term outlook has been altered by the report of the number of cattle on farms January 1. The liquidation phase of the cattle cycle has ended; but the expansion phase of the cycle has not yet materialized. Additional price strength on the demand side later in the year appears probable from the present expectations of a more moderate recession with real income increasing in the second half.

Cattle Inventory—Small Gain

Following the largest liquidation since records began, this liquidation phase of the cattle cycle has apparently ended. From January 1, 1975 to January 1, 1979 the cattle and calf inventory declined 21.1 million head, a 16-percent reduction. The January 1, 1980 cattle inventory totaled nearly 111 million head, up only 100,000 head from 1979. A 1- to 2-percent increase in the inventory to 112 to 113 million head was expected.

Beef cows on farms and ranches on January 1, 1980 were down slightly from the year-earlier level despite a 30-percent reduction in cow slaughter during 1979. The number of intended replacement heifers which actually entered the cattle herd in 1979 was only 6.6 million head, compared to 7.3 million head in 1978 (see table). During the first half of 1979 only 35 percent of the intended replacement heifers on January 1, 1979 actually entered the cow herd, while in the second half only 33 percent of the July 1 intended replacements entered the herd. With the exception of the second half of 1977, this was the lowest proportion of intended replacement heifers to actually enter the cow herd since the July 1 inventory report began in 1973. The low second-half figures may reflect a change in expansion plans and helps to explain the lower than expected calf crop. Over 30 percent of the calves were

Table 1—Beef supplies and prices

	Commercial cattle slaughter[1]: Steers and heifers: Fed	Commercial cattle slaughter[1]: Steers and heifers: Non-fed	Commercial cattle slaughter[1]: Steers and heifers: Total	Commercial cattle slaughter[1]: Cows	Commercial cattle slaughter[1]: Bulls and stags	Commercial cattle slaughter[1]: Total	Average dressed weight	Commercial production	Per capita consumption[2]	Prices: Retail	Prices: Choice Feeders 600-700 lb. Kansas City	Prices: Choice Steers Omaha 900-1100 lb.	Prices: Farm[3]
	1,000 head						*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Lb.*	*Cents/lb.*	*$/cwt.*		
1976: I . . .	6,550	1,375	7,925	2,748	240	10,913	595	6,492	32.8	151.3	39.19	38.71	33.37
II . .	6,150	1,429	7,579	2,330	261	10,170	604	6,145	31.2	150.8	43.89	41.42	37.17
III. .	6,430	1,605	8,035	2,612	262	10,909	607	6,618	33.5	145.3	38.10	37.30	32.97
IV. .	5,910	1,588	7,498	2,929	235	10,662	601	6,412	31.8	145.4	36.40	39.00	31.93
Year	25,040	5,997	31,037	10,619	998	42,654	602	25,667	129.3	148.2	39.40	39.11	33.70
1977: I . . .	6,710	1,009	7,719	2,535	212	10,466	601	6,287	31.7	144.6	37.77	37.88	33.07
II . .	6,400	1,406	7,806	2,162	225	10,193	604	6,158	30.9	146.4	41.10	40.77	35.20
III. .	6,420	1,567	7,987	2,398	244	10,629	595	6,321	32.0	149.0	41.16	40.47	34.70
IV. .	6,360	1,217	7,577	2,769	222	10,568	588	6,220	31.3	153.4	40.70	42.42	34.97
Year	25,890	5,199	31,089	9,864	903	41,856	597	24,986	125.9	148.4	40.18	40.38	34.40
1978: I . . .	7,050	658	7,708	2,317	184	10,209	598	6,106	30.4	162.7	47.89	45.77	40.30
II . .	6,900	617	7,517	2,148	211	9,876	601	5,938	29.8	185.7	58.00	55.06	49.63
III. .	6,770	772	7,542	1,993	208	9,743	608	5,923	29.7	189.4	62.71	53.75	50.07
IV. .	7,020	497	7,517	2,012	195	9,724	621	6,043	30.2	189.7	66.52	54.76	52.93
Year	27,740	2,544	30,284	8,470	798	39,552	607	24,010	120.1	181.9	58.78	52.34	48.23
1979: I . . .	7,000	178	7,178	1,566	148	8,892	624	5,546	28.4	215.4	80.93	65.42	64.70
II . .	6,400	124	6,524	1,368	148	8,040	631	5,076	26.2	235.5	86.83	72.51	70.27
III. .	6,220	518	6,738	1,338	162	8,238	634	5,219	26.7	226.6	82.50	65.88	64.60
IV. .	5,970	693	6,663	1,650	167	8,480	639	5,412	26.0	227.7	82.18	66.86	64.67
Year	25,590	1,513	27,103	5,922	625	33,650	632	21,253	107.2	226.3	83.11	67.67	66.10

[1] Classes estimated. [2] Total, including farm production. [3] Annual is weighted average.

expected to be born in the second half of 1979 according to the July 1 cattle inventory report. In 1977 and 1978 about 27 to 29 percent of the calf crop was calved in the second half of the year. It is possible that some heifers which were in the replacement category on July 1, 1979 were not bred to calve until early 1980 and still were reported as heifers in the January 1, 1980 report.

The 1979 calf crop was estimated at 42.8 million head, down 2 percent from 1978. This calf crop was 706,000 head fewer than was indicated in the July 1 estimate and about 1.1 million fewer calves than the 1978 calf crop. Yet, this was still the first calf crop to exceed total cattle and calf slaughter since 1975.

The inventory changes during 1979 reflect an end to the liquidation phase of the previous cycle and may set the base for a broader expansion beginning in 1980. Cattle numbers have leveled off, but the expansion will not begin until increased numbers of replacement heifers enter the cow herd and the calf crop increases. Producers indicated they were holding back 5.9 million beef heifer replacements on Janaury 1, 1980, an 8-percent increase over 1979.

Feeder Cattle Supplies Up Slightly

Feeder cattle supplies outside feedlots on January 1, 1980 were 1 percent greater than a year ago. The smaller 1979 calf crop, and larger-than-expected second-half nonfed steer and heifer slaughter reduced feeder cattle supplies. However, the number of feeder cattle available to go on feed continues to remain above year-earlier levels due to reduced feedlot placements in the second half of 1979. The number of calves outside feedlots was nearly 1 percent greater than a year-ago, while steers and heifers weighing 500 pounds and over, increased 2 percent. Feedlot placements in 1980 are expected to increase due to decreased nonfed slaughter and further reductions in calf slaughter.

1979 Recap—Record Large Dressed Weights

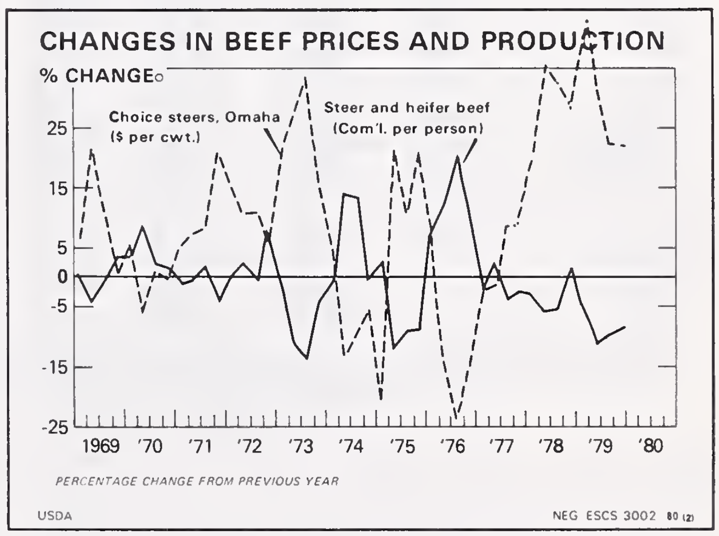
Beef production in 1979 was 11.5 percent below 1978 and 17.2 percent below the record 1976 production. Commercial cattle slaughter was nearly 15 percent below 1978 and 21 percent below the 1976 level. Average dressed weights for commercial slaughter were the heaviest on record at

Federally inspected cattle slaughter

Week ended 1978[1]	Cattle 1978	Cattle 1979	Steers 1978	Steers 1979	Cows 1978	Cows 1979
	Thousands					
Jan. 6	671	599	307	312	169	102
13	791	775	366	394	192	147
20	760	712	357	372	176	125
27	737	637	343	334	173	113
Feb. 3	774	651	363	340	181	112
Feb. 10	765	630	366	325	171	115
11	777	678	375	373	173	113
24	727	600	343	316	171	100
Mar. 3	729	633	345	329	162	111
Mar. 10	725	649	358	344	145	109
17	717	599	341	308	160	112
24	689	593	323	320	150	102
31	683	568	324	298	146	103
Apr. 7	704	591	329	320	163	101
14	767	575	377	314	156	97
21	744	574	356	301	154	101
28	735	527	337	263	168	107
May 5	717	567	344	293	158	103
12	752	581	368	304	153	99
19	730	586	350	311	161	103
26	722	614	348	339	152	98
June 2	618	534	297	286	132	90
June 9	695	604	324	326	157	98
16	694	586	328	321	156	86
23	678	576	318	304	155	97
30	683	623	325	337	145	102
July 7	582	546	294	294	102	82
14	756	626	331	313	177	144
21	700	571	316	287	153	95
28	678	527	316	281	136	80
Aug. 4	672	606	295	316	145	94
11	709	614	332	325	143	93
18	694	614	323	322	139	90
25	724	660	336	335	143	106
Sept. 1	757	609	341	303	153	102
Sept. 8	648	531	291	272	128	80
15	770	631	343	311	153	107
22	719	594	314	301	151	104
29	710	611	321	305	146	109
Oct. 6	741	614	336	301	153	106
13	755	647	338	333	155	109
20	721	612	321	294	154	118
27	699	612	317	299	150	114
Nov. 3	729	617	340	298	151	115
Nov. 10	710	633	324	308	154	122
17	728	612	331	288	162	134
24	583	510	276	253	117	103
Dec. 1	730	603	352	292	150	136
Dec. 8	717	632	339	315	160	135
15	719	625	347	317	148	124
22	657	628	328	319	126	128
29	555	452	289	245	93	80

Utility cow prices per 100 pounds, Omaha

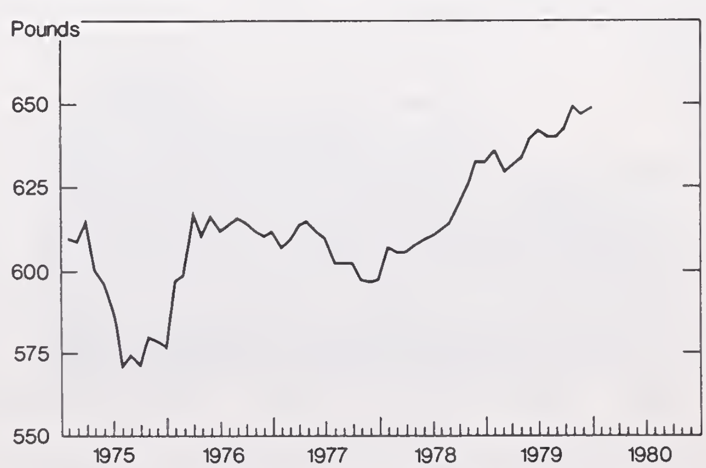
Month	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
	Dollars						
January	31.45	16.82	23.26	22.95	27.59	47.33	47.94
February	32.65	18.18	25.90	23.88	30.34	50.81	
March	31.76	19.45	27.45	26.67	32.44	52.94	
April	30.50	21.67	30.72	27.63	36.94	57.00	
May	27.67	23.55	30.24	26.57	39.21	55.51	
June	26.39	23.32	27.47	25.64	37.61	50.60	
July	24.22	22.00	25.80	25.23	38.09	47.80	
August	24.54	21.29	25.10	25.38	37.85	48.33	
September	22.56	22.45	22.90	26.12	39.75	49.65	
October	19.68	22.01	22.72	24.89	40.46	47.71	
November	17.62	20.73	20.59	23.80	39.30	46.49	
December	17.67	21.64	21.60	25.02	41.85	46.98	
Average	25.56	21.09	25.31	25.32	36.79	50.10	



Commercial Cow Slaughter*

*Estimated

Average Dressed Weight of Cattle



Steer prices, costs, and net margins[1]

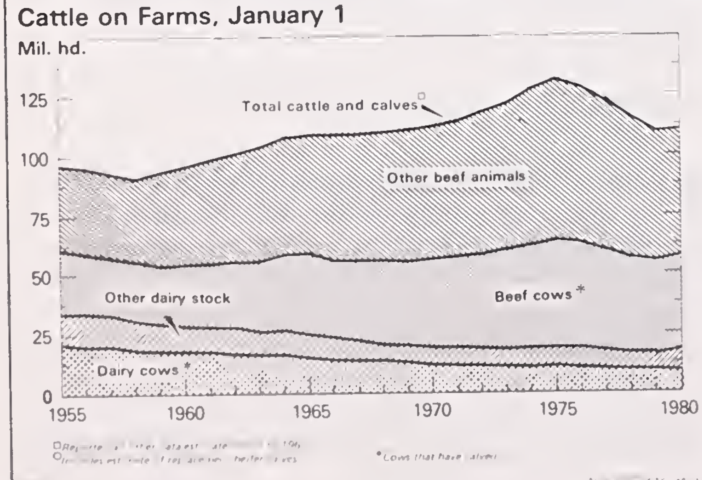
Year	Steers Omaha	Feed & Feeder	Break-even	Net margin
	$ per cwt.			
1977				
January	38.38	41.81	47.82	-9.44
February	37.98	40.46	46.35	-8.37
March	37.28	39.25	45.06	-7.78
April	40.08	37.86	43.66	-3.58
May	41.98	36.24	42.07	-0.09
June	40.24	37.73	43.58	-3.34
July	40.94	38.50	44.41	-3.47
August	40.11	39.28	45.31	-5.20
September	40.35	40.01	46.10	-5.75
October	42.29	41.46	47.65	-5.36
November	41.83	40.77	47.04	-5.21
December	43.13	38.88	45.09	-1.96
1978				
January	43.62	38.04	44.27	-0.65
February	45.02	36.92	43.12	+1.90
March	48.66	35.76	41.92	+6.74
April	52.52	35.80	41.95	+10.57
May	57.28	37.34	43.54	+13.74
June	55.38	38.57	44.82	+10.56
July	54.59	40.01	46.42	+8.17
August	52.40	42.03	48.70	+3.70
September	54.26	45.20	52.04	+2.22
October	54.93	47.74	54.71	+0.22
November	53.82	50.83	57.91	-4.09
December	55.54	49.63	56.66	-1.12
1979				
January	60.35	49.92	57.02	+3.33
February	64.88	50.59	57.81	+7.07
March	71.04	50.97	58.26	+12.78
April	75.00	51.72	59.04	+15.96
May	73.99	52.43	59.80	+14.19
June	68.53	55.33	62.88	+5.65
July	67.06	58.73	66.53	+0.53
August	62.74	61.90	70.12	-7.38
September	67.84	66.14	74.65	-6.81
October	65.81	68.02	76.65	-10.84
November	67.00	68.31	75.93	-8.93
December	67.78	64.70	73.06	-5.28
1980				
January	66.32	66.00	74.39	-8.07
February		62.70	70.90	
March		66.40	74.83	
April		63.89	72.22	
May		63.95	72.33	
June		64.37	72.78	

[1] Selling price required to cover costs of feeding 600 lb. feeder steer to 1,050 lb. slaughter in Corn Belt.

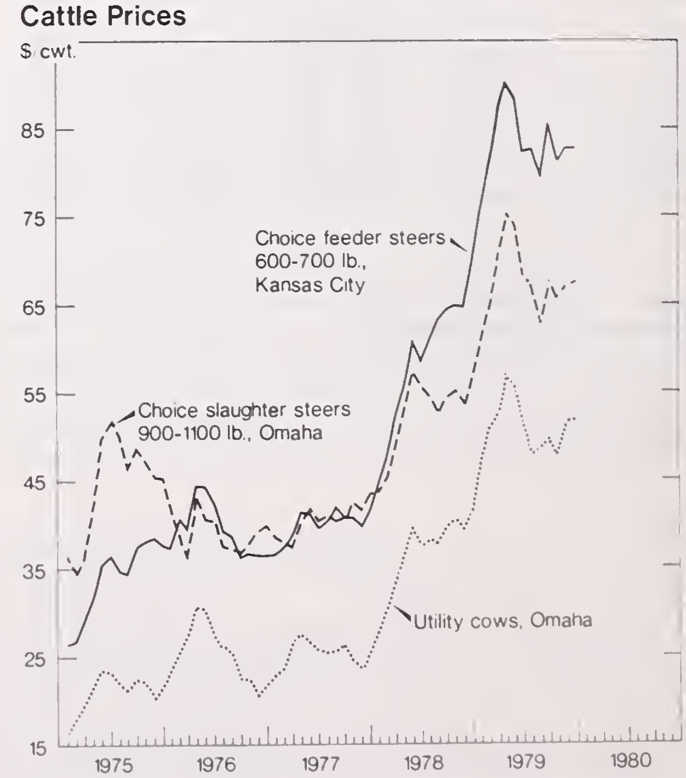
7 States Cattle on Feed, Placements, and Marketings

Year	On feed	Change, previous year	Net placements	Change, previous year	Marketings	Change, previous year
	1,000 head	*Percent*	*1,000 head*	*Percent*	*1,000 head*	*Percent*
1977						
Jan.	8,213	-3.8	1,262	-1.6	1,602	+9.6
Feb.	7,873	-5.8	1,250	-3.3	1,567	+2.5
Mar.	7,556	-7.0	1,435	+15.0	1,710	-7.1
Apr.	7,281	-3.3	1,470	-1.8	1,554	+2.8
May.	7,197	-4.2	1,335	+8.9	1,479	+0.6
June	7,053	-3.0	1,367	+7.0	1,546	+5.3
July.	6,874	-2.9	1,439	+29.3	1,442	-5.2
Aug.	6,871	+3.0	1,453	+7.2	1,598	+0.6
Sept.	6,726	+4.5	1,762	+8.9	1,530	+3.5
Oct.	6,958	+5.7	2,771	+25.1	1,589	+6.6
Nov.	8,140	+11.5	1,915	-5.7	1,488	+11.6
Dec.	8,567	+7.1	1,965	+16.5	1,605	+9.0
1978						
Jan.	8,927	+8.7	1,437	+13.9	1,750	+9.2
Feb.	8,614	+9.4	1,338	+7.0	1,676	+7.0
Mar.	8,276	+9.5	1,664	+16.0	1,678	-1.9
Apr.	8,262	+13.5	1,300	-11.6	1,701	+9.5
May.	7,861	+9.2	1,825	+37.0	1,673	+13.1
June	8,013	+13.6	1,626	+18.9	1,657	+7.2
July.	7,982	+16.1	1,489	+3.5	1,604	+11.2
Aug.	7,867	+14.5	1,642	+13.0	1,674	+4.8
Sept.	7,835	+16.5	2,352	+34.5	1,646	+7.6
Oct.	8,541	+22.8	2,626	-5.2	1,865	+17.4
Nov.	9,302	+14.3	1,730	-9.7	1,717	+15.4
Dec.	9,315	+8.7	1,567	-20.3	1,656	+3.2
1979						
Jan.	9,226	+3.3	1,378	-4.1	1,875	+7.1
Feb.	8,729	+1.3	1,135	-15.2	1,650	-1.6
Mar.	8,214	-0.7	1,419	-14.7	1,685	+1.4
Apr.	7,948	-3.8	1,255	-3.5	1,535	-9.8
May.	7,668	-2.5	1,633	-10.5	1,603	-4.2
June	7,698	-3.9	1,421	-12.6	1,557	-6.0
July.	7,562	-5.3	1,163	-21.9	1,462	-8.8
Aug.	7,203	-8.4	1,268	-22.8	1,634	-2.4
Sept.	6,837	-12.7	1,962	-16.6	1,384	-15.9
Oct.	7,415	-13.2	2,241	-14.7	1,639	-12.1
Nov.	8,017	-13.8	1,690	-2.3	1,438	-16.2
Dec.	8,269	-11.2	1,516	-3.2	1,331	-19.6
1980						
Jan.	8,454	-8.4				

Cattle on Farms, January 1



Cattle Prices



Heifers entering cow herd
January-June and July-December

	January 1 cow inventory	Intended herd replacements January 1	Total[1] disappearance Jan.-June	July 1 cow inventory	Heifers entering herd Jan.-June	Percent entering herd	Intended herd replacements July 1	Total[1] disappearance Jan.-June	January 1 cow inventory following yr.	Heifers entering herd July-Dec.	Percent entering herd
	1,000 head					*Percent*	*1,000 head*				*Percent*
1973	52,553	11,306	3,550	54,037	5,034	44.5	11,144	3,496	54,478	3,927	35.2
1974	54,478	12,134	3,625	56,960	6,107	50.3	11,780	4,702	56,931	4,677	39.7
1975	56,931	12,971	5,212	58,053	6,336	48.8	11,306	7,197	54,974	4,120	36.4
1976	54,974	11,154	5,628	53,940	4,594	41.2	10,469	5,811	52,424	4,300	41.1
1977	52,424	10,417	5,221	52,171	4,968	47.7	9,844	5,430	49,748	3,006	30.5
1978	49,748	9,741	4,961	48,477	3,690	37.9	9.895	4,254	47,843	3,620	38.8
1979	47,843	9,453	3,412	47,740	3,302			3,231	47,744	3,285	33.2
1980	47,794	10,097									

[1] Death loss 1 percent of January 1 cow inventory plus estimated commercial cow slaughter. [2] Death loss ½ percent of January 1 cow inventory plus estimated commercial cow slaughter.

632 pounds, 25 pounds heavier than in 1978 and 4 pounds heavier than the previous record set in 1973. Fed cattle slaughter declined 8 percent in 1979 from 1978, nonfed steer and heifer slaughter dropped 40 percent, and cow slaughter fell 30 percent. Fed cattle slaughter increased to 94 percent of total steer and heifer slaughter, up from 92 percent in 1978. Fed cattle slaughter comprised 76 percent of total cattle slaughter in 1979, compared with 70 percent in 1978. The increased proportion of fed cattle in the slaughter mix and heavier slaughter weights helped to hold the decline in beef production to 4.5 percent less than the decline in slaughter numbers.

Calf slaughter in 1979 declined 34 percent from 4.2 million head in 1978 to 2.8 million head in 1979. However, commercial veal production declined by only 31 percent due to heavier calf slaughter weights. Veal consumption declined by nearly a pound to 2.1 pounds per capita.

The first half of 1979 looked promising for cattle producers as prices rose steadily through early May. However, cattle prices declined in late spring as pork and broiler supplies increased. Also some overfinished cattle resulted in heavier cattle slaughter weights with resulting price discounts. These factors apparently dampened producer confidence for the remainder of 1979.

The slow fed cattle marketing pace which started in late spring continued and slaughter weights increased throughout the year. In addition, nonfed steer and heifer slaughter began to increase from first half 1979 levels. Increased nonfed slaughter reflected the larger number of heavier yearling cattle in the inventory due to the excellent grazing year. These cattle were less desireable for feeding, particularly at the higher feeder cattle prices which existed last summer and fall—consequently many were slaughtered.

Choice 900-1100 pound steers at Omaha averaged $67.67 per hundredweight in 1979—29 percent above 1978. Medium number one 600-700 pound feeder steers at Kansas City averaged $83.11—41 percent above 1978. Utility cow prices at Omaha increased 36 percent to $50.07 per hundredweight. Choice retail beef prices increased 24 percent in 1979 to $2.26 per pound. Cattle feeders failed to cover costs for much of the second half of 1979 because of higher feeder cattle prices (particularly in the second quarter at $86.83), and fed cattle prices averaging only $66.37 in the second half.

Slow Marketing Pace Continues in Early 1980

Cattle on feed in the 23 major cattle feeding States on January 1, 1980 were 7 and 8 percent below year-earlier and 1978 levels, respectively. This marked the fourth consecutive quarter in which the number of cattle on feed were below the year-earlier number. Net placements in the fourth quarter were nearly 7 percent below 1979. However, marketings during this same period were down 15 percent indicating heavy marketing weights will continue at least through early 1980. On January 1, 1980, the number of cattle in the heaviest weight groups, steers weighing over 1,100 pounds and heifers over 900 pounds, continued to exceed year-earlier levels. Most of these heavier cattle should already have been marketed. However, a large number of cattle were in weight groups normally marketed in the winter quarter. Excellent rates of gain may also move up the expected marketing date for lighter cattle. Federally inspected average dressed weights through January remained at or above the 648 pound December average.

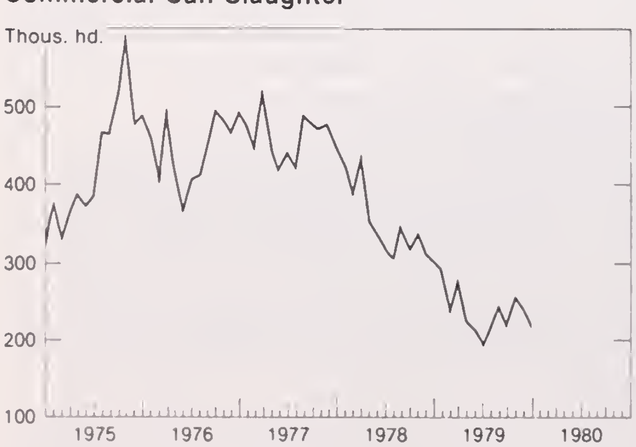
Feeders intentions reported as of January 1 indicate marketings of almost 6.4 million head in

Veal supplies and prices

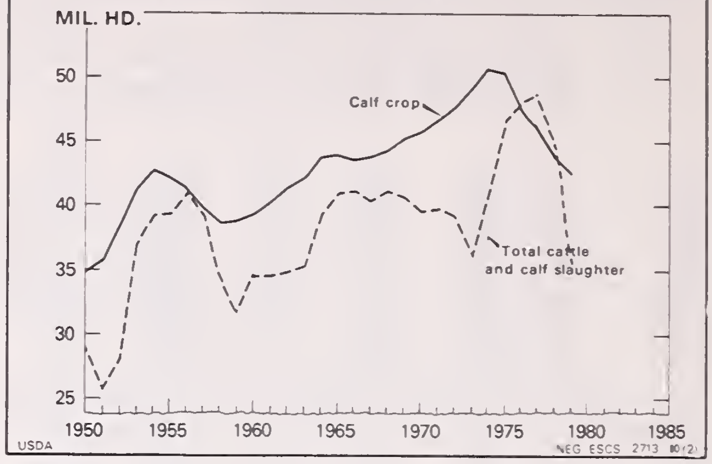
	Commercial				Prices		
	Slaughter	Av. dr. wt.	Production	Per capita[1]	Retail	Choice vealers So. St. Paul	Farm
	1,000 head	*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Lb.*	*Cents per lb.*	*$/cwt.*	*$/cwt.*
1974							
I ...	614	135	83	.5	197.3	63.17	52.33
II ...	585	144	84	.4	193.9	54.38	42.50
III ..	762	159	121	.6	194.4	43.96	33.47
IV ..	1,026	150	154	.8	190.7	37.02	26.13
Year ..	2,987	148	442	2.3	194.1	49.63	35.20
1975							
I ...	1,068	155	166	.9	183.4	38.68	24.40
II ...	1,137	160	182	.9	182.1	42.18	28.37
III ..	1,449	160	232	1.2	182.1	37.56	26.67
IV ..	1,555	159	247	1.2	177.0	43.33	28.30
Year ..	5,209	159	827	4.2	181.1	40.44	27.20
1976							
I ...	1,370	150	206	1.0	173.8	50.84	33.13
II ...	1,195	149	178	.9	174.3	44.01	38.23
III ..	1,349	152	205	1.0	174.9	38.62	34.00
IV .	1,436	156	224	1.1	170.1	47.24	32.63
Year ..	5,350	152	813	4.0	173.3	45.18	34.10
1977							
I ...	1,438	140	201	1.0	177.7	53.42	35.23
II ...	1,304	143	187	.9	178.9	53.13	37.47
III ..	1,380	149	205	1.0	181.1	44.90	37.17
IV ..	1,395	144	201	1.0	183.3	41.33	37.17
Year ..	5,517	144	794	3.9	180.3	48.19	36.90
1978							
I ...	1,251	142	178	.9	179.9	43.95	44.80
II ...	1,006	148	149	.7	195.9	73.33	56.73
III ..	966	144	139	.7	225.9	80.21	62.33
IV ..	947	141	134	.7	236.1	79.47	68.33
Year	4,170	144	600	3.0	209.5	69.24	58.05
1979							
I ...	808	142	115	.6	251.3	89.90	85.80
II ...	630	156	98	.5	285.5	103.05	94.43
III ..	676	146	99	.5	295.2	92.57	88.73
IV	710	142	101	.5	298.3	80.12	85.53
Year	2,824	146	413	2.1	282.3	91.41	88.60

[1] Total, including farm production. [2] Annual is weighted average.

Commercial Calf Slaughter



CALF CROP AND SLAUGHTER



Choice steer prices per 100 pounds, Omaha[1]

Month	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
	Dollars						
January. . .	47.14	36.34	41.18	38.38	43.62	60.35	66.32
February. .	46.38	34.74	38.80	37.98	45.02	64.88	
March. . . .	42.85	36.08	36.14	37.28	48.66	71.04	
April	41.53	42.80	43.12	40.08	52.52	75.00	
May.	40.52	49.48	40.62	41.98	57.28	73.99	
June	37.98	51.82	40.52	40.24	55.38	68.53	
July.	43.72	50.21	37.92	40.94	54.59	67.06	
August . . .	46.62	46.80	37.02	40.11	52.40	62.74	
September .	41.38	48.91	36.97	40.35	54.26	67.84	
October . .	39.64	47.90	37.88	42.29	54.93	65.81	
November .	37.72	45.23	39.15	41.83	53.82	67.00	
December .	37.20	45.01	39.96	43.13	55.54	67.78	
Average. . .	41.89	44.61	39.11	40.38	52.34	67.67	

[1] 900-1,100 lb.

Feeder cattle prices per 100 pounds, Kansas City

Month	Choice feeder steers 600-700 lbs.			Choice feeder steer calves[1]		
	1978	1979	1980	1978	1979	1980
	Dollars					
Jan.	44.07	75.29	80.52	46.15	85.19	91.64
Feb.	47.60	80.26		51.78	94.70	
Mar.	52.00	87.25		57.64	101.04	
Apr.	55.08	89.98		61.10	105.62	
May	60.36	88.32		68.17	106.88	
June	58.56	82.19		67.00	96.38	
July	60.60	82.48		68.42	98.72	
Aug.	63.08	79.31		71.61	98.39	
Sept.	64.46	85.34		74.51	104.29	
Oct.	64.88	81.29		72.30	94.04	
Nov.	64.85	82.44		73.03	92.99	
Dec.	69.33	82.80		78.27	93.84	
Av.	58.74	83.08		65.83	97.70	

[1] 400-500 lbs.

Jan. 1 cattle inventory and calf crop

Year	Cattle	Cows	Cows/ cattle	Calf crops	Calf crop/ cows
	1,000 head	*1,000 head*	*Percent*	*1,000 head*	*Percent*
1950 ..	77,963	37,946	49	34,899	92
1951 ..	82,083	39,415	48	35,825	91
1952 ..	88,072	41,225	47	38,273	93
1953 ..	94,241	44,030	47	41,261	94
1954 ..	95,679	46,045	48	42,601	93
1955 ..	96,592	46,240	48	42,112	91
1956 ..	95,900	45,460	47	41,376	91
1957 ..	92,860	44,115	48	39,905	90
1958 ..	91,176	42,790	47	38,860	91
1959 ..	93,322	42,680	46	38,938	91
1960 ..	96,236	43,325	45	39,416	91
1961 ..	97,700	44,045	45	40,180	91
1962 ..	100,369	45,086	45	41,441	92
1963 ..	104,488	46,399	44	42,268	91
1964 ..	107,903	47,868	44	43,809	92
1965 ..	109,000	48,780	45	43,922	90
1966 ..	108,862	47,990	44	43,537	91
1967 ..	108,783	47,495	44	43,803	92
1968 ..	109,371	47,685	44	44,315	93
1969 ..	110,015	48,040	44	45,177	94
1970 ..	112,369	48,780	43	45,871	94
1971 ..	114,578	49,786	43	46,738	94
1972 ..	117,862	50,585	43	47,682	94
1973 ..	121,539	52,553	43	49,194	94
1974 ..	127,788	54,478	43	50,873	93
1975 ..	132,028	56,931	43	50,183	88
1976 ..	127,980	54,974	43	47,440	86
1977 ..	122,810	52,424	43	46,088	88
1978 ..	116,375	49,748	43	43,839	88
1979 ..	110,864	47,843	43	42,752	89
1980 ..	110,961	47,794	43		

January 1 feeder cattle supply

Item	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980/79
	1,000 head				*% change*
Calves <500 lb.					
On farms	34,531	32,363	29,595	27,413	-6
On feed[1]	1,322	1,351	1,613	1,324	-9
TOTAL	33,209	31,012	27,982	26,089	+1
Steers & herifers 500 + lb.[2]					
On farms	24,476	24,942	24,749	23,752	-3
On feed[1]	11,542	11,125	11,778	11,857	-8
TOTAL	12,934	13,817	12,971	11,895	+2
Total supply ...	46,143	44,829	40,953	37,984	+1

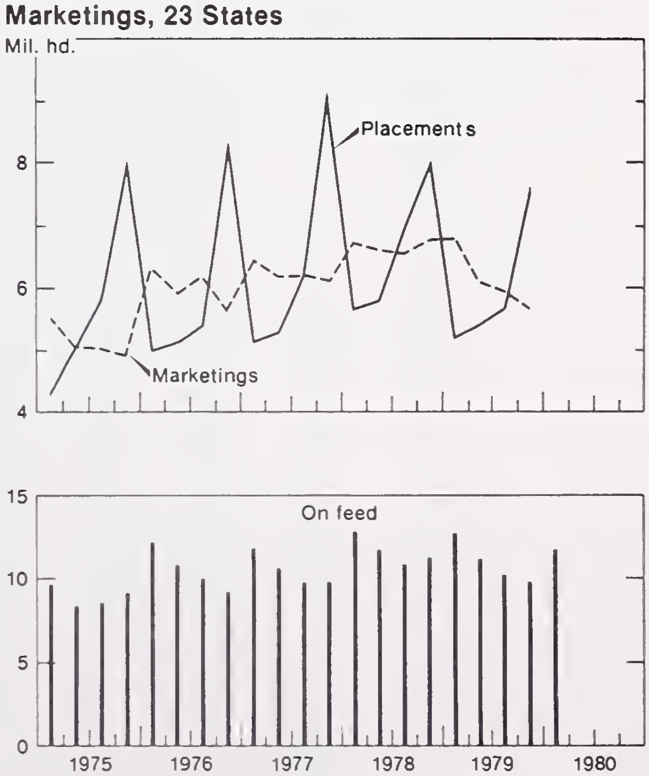
[1] Estimated U.S. steers and heifers. [2] Not including heifers for cow replacement.

Cattle on feed, placements, and marketings, 23 States

Item	1977	1978	1979	1980	1980/ 1979[1]
	1,000 head				*% change*
On feed Oct. 1[3] .	9,282	9,793	11,347	9,938	-12
Placements, Oct.-Dec.	8,762	9,551	8,673	8,103	-7
Marketings, Oct.-Dec.	5,684	6,085	6,730	5,731	-15
Other disappearance Oct.-Dec. .	412	448	609	571	-6
On feed Jan. 1 ..	11,948	12,811	12,681	11,739	-7
Steer & steer Calves	7,813	8,343	8,507	7,907	-7
-500 lb.	634	781	690	642	-7
500-699 lb. ..	1,665	1,869	1,562	1,529	-2
700-899 lb. ..	2,804	2,936	2,801	2,350	-16
900-1,099 lb.	2,258	2,343	2,851	2,611	-8
1,100 + lb. ..	452	413	603	775	+29
Heifers & Heifer calves	4,069	4,410	4,095	3,721	-9
-500 lb.	653	755	576	518	-10
500-699 lb. ...	1,295	1,522	1,339	1,164	-13
700-899 lb. ...	1,484	1,543	1,489	1,301	-13
900 + lb.	637	590	691	738	+7
Cows	66	58	79	111	+41
Marketings, Jan.-Mar.	6,462	6,771	6,747	[2] 6,378	-5

[1] Percent change 1978/77 for Oct.-Dec. quarter. [2] Intentions. [3] Oct.-Dec. previous year.

Cattle on Feed, Net Placements and Marketings, 23 States



the first quarter, 5.5 percent below year-earlier marketings. This level of marketings likely will be met or perhaps exceeded during the quarter.

Much of the reduction in the number of cattle on feed is due to the decline in middle weight groups normally marketed in the second quarter. While additional cattle will likely be placed to at least partially fill this gap, fed-feeder cattle price margins and the continued tight feeder cattle supply will increasingly serve to ration this movement of cattle into feedlots.

First Half 1980 Prospects

Large numbers of excessively finished cattle continue to burden the fed cattle market. The price spread between Choice yield-grade 2 and 3 and yield-grade 5 carcass beef in January was $10 to $15 dollars per hundredweight reflecting the number of excessively finished cattle being marketed. This weight gain on cattle is expensive and results in increased beef production which further depresses cattle prices.

Fed cattle marketed through January continued to lose money. While the cost of feed and feeder cattle was more favorable to cattle feeders than during much of last fall, the lower fed cattle prices kept the net margin in the red. Little price improvement can be expected until the excessive number of yield-grade 4 and 5 cattle have been marketed and more moderate market weights prevail. The net margin figures shown in the cattle feeding cost tables reflect the situation the cattle industry has been in since late last summer. The cost of gain for cattle carried to heavier weights would be higher and the selling price lower than the figures presented in these tables.

Beef production in the first quarter is expected to total 2 to 4 percent below the first quarter of 1979. If marketing weights continue at the January level, beef production could be even larger. The onslaught of some severe winter weather in late January may serve to temper the weight gains and reduce the likelihood of bunched cattle marketings later this winter.

Fed cattle production will likely decline in the second quarter and remain below year-earlier levels. This is due to the smaller number of cattle in the middle weight groups, particularly the 700-899 pound steers. However, with the losses cattle feeders are now incurring, feeders may be less willing to place a large number of these yearlings on feed this winter. Yearling feeder cattle are available to fill this gap. However, current feeder-cattle prices and price expectations for fed cattle during the sec-

Table 2 —Cattle balance sheet

Year	On farms Jan. 1	Imports	Calf crop	Total supply	Slaughter		Death loss	Exports	Total disap-pearance	To balance	On farms Dec. 31
					Cattle	Calves					
	1,000 head										
1950	77,963	461	34,899	113,323	18,614	10,501	3,742	8	32,865	+1,625	82,083
1951	82,083	239	35,825	118,147	17,084	8,902	3,863	8	29,857	-218	88,072
1952	88,072	140	38,273	126,485	18,625	9,388	4,034	11	32,058	-186	94,241
1953	94,241	198	41,261	135,700	24,465	12,200	4,060	15	40,740	+719	95,679
1954	95,679	86	42,601	138,366	25,889	13,270	4,063	21	43,243	+1,469	96,592
1955	96,592	314	42,112	139,018	26,587	12,864	4,052	35	43,538	+420	95,900
1956	95,900	159	41,376	137,435	27,755	12,999	3,912	37	44,703	+128	92,860
1957	92,860	728	39,905	133,493	27,068	12,353	3,801	44	43,266	+949	91,176
1958	91,176	1,152	38,860	131,188	24,368	9,738	3,810	26	37,942	+76	93,322
1959	93,322	709	38,938	132,969	23,722	8,072	3,876	51	35,721	-1,012	96,236
1960	96,236	663	39,416	136,315	26,029	8,615	4,100	32	38,776	+161	97,700
1961	97,700	1,043	40,180	138,923	26,471	8,080	4,018	24	38,593	+39	100,369
1962	100,369	1,250	41,441	143,060	26,911	7,857	4,125	19	38,912	+340	104,488
1963	104,488	852	42,268	147,608	28,070	7,204	4,040	23	39,337	-368	107,903
1964	107,903	547	43,809	152,259	31,678	7,632	4,232	62	43,604	+345	109,000
1965	109,000	1,128	43,922	154,050	33,171	7,788	4,248	54	45,261	+73	108,862
1966	108,862	1,100	43,537	153,499	34,173	6,863	4,049	35	45,120	+404	108,783
1967	108,783	752	43,803	153,338	34,297	6,110	4,045	55	44,507	+540	109,371
1968	109,371	1,039	44,315	154,725	35,418	5,616	4,012	36	45,082	+372	110,015
1969	110,015	1,042	45,177	156,234	35,573	5,011	4,123	39	44,746	+881	112,369
1970	112,369	1,168	45,871	159,408	35,356	4,203	4,297	88	43,944	-886	114,578
1971	114,578	991	46,738	162,307	35,905	3,825	4,442	93	44,265	-180	117,862
1972	117,862	1,186	47,682	166,730	36,134	3,201	5,126	104	44,565	-626	121,539
1973	121,539	1,039	49,194	171,772	34,102	2,404	6,487	273	43,266	-718	127,788
1974	127,788	568	50,873	179,229	37,353	3,175	6,110	204	46,842	-359	132,028
1975	132,028	389	50,183	182,600	41,464	5,406	6,992	196	54,058	-562	127,980
1976	127,980	984	47,440	176,404	43,199	5,527	5,190	205	54,121	+527	122,810
1977	122,810	1,133	46,088	170,031	42,381	5,692	6,000	107	54,180	+524	116,375
1978	116,375	1,253	43,839	161,467	39,970	4,302	5,680	122	50,074	-529	110,864
1979	110,864	732	42,752	154,348	34,100	3,000	5,600	66	42,766	-621	110,961

Great Plains Custom cattle feeding[1]

Purchased during / Marketed during	Sept. / Mar.	Oct. / Apr.	Nov. / May	Dec. / June	Jan. 79 / July	Feb. / Aug.	Mar. / Sept.	Apr. / Oct.	May / Nov.	June / Dec.	July / Jan. 80	Aug. / Feb.	Sept. / Mar.	Oct. / Apr.	Nov. / May	Dec. / June
	Dollars per head															
Expenses:																
600 lb. feeder steer	381.00	370.50	384.90	404.34	448.44	481.38	528.66	541.56	515.40	454.44	474.00	456.78	485.28	470.58	484.68	485.10
Transportation to feedlot (300 mi)	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.96
Commission	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Feed:																
Milo (1,500 lb.)	58.65	62.55	61.20	58.65	60.75	60.45	60.60	62.25	64.95	73.95	80.10	71.85	71.25	70.50	69.60	69.15
Corn (1,500 lb.)	63.75	68.85	69.45	66.90	71.70	72.30	72.15	75.45	79.65	86.55	90.75	84.75	81.75	80.55	80.55	80.55
Cottonseed meal (400 lb.)	38.40	40.00	43.20	43.20	44.40	44.00	44.00	42.40	42.40	41.50	43.20	44.00	44.40	45.20	46.80	50.00
Alfalfa hay (800 lb.)	39.00	40.00	40.00	41.00	43.00	42.20	43.20	44.20	41.00	41.00	40.40	39.80	39.60	40.80	42.60	44.60
Total feed cost	199.80	211.40	213.85	209.75	219.85	218.95	219.95	224.30	228.00	243.10	254.45	240.40	237.00	237.05	239.55	244.60
Feed handling & management charge	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
Vet medicine	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Interest on feeder & ½ feed	24.04	23.81	25.82	26.73	29.31	31.02	33.53	34.32	33.04	30.24	31.56	31.73	35.47	37.56	39.29	39.48
Death loss (1.5% of purchase)	5.72	5.56	5.77	6.07	6.72	7.22	7.93	8.12	7.73	6.82	7.10	6.85	7.23	7.06	7.27	7.28
Marketing[2]	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.	F.O.B.
Total	641.52	642.23	661.30	677.85	735.28	769.53	821.03	839.26	815.13	765.56	798.07	766.72	795.94	783.21	801.75	807.42
	Dollars per cwt.															
Selling price required to cover[3]																
Feed and feeder cost (1,056 lb.)	55.00	55.10	56.70	58.15	63.29	66.32	70.89	72.52	70.40	66.05	68.98	66.02	68.40	67.01	68.58	69.10
All costs	60.75	60.82	62.62	64.19	69.63	72.87	77.75	79.48	77.19	72.50	75.57	72.61	75.37	74.17	75.92	76.46
Selling price $/cwt.[4]	72.15	75.72	75.73	70.48	69.25	63.50	68.80	65.49	68.15	69.66						
Net margin/cwt.	+11.40	+14.90	+13.11	+6.29	-0.38	-9.37	-8.95	-13.99	-9.04	-2.84						
Cost per 100 lb. gain:																
Variable costs less interest	45.90	48.19	48.72	47.96	50.11	50.03	50.38	51.28	51.95	54.78	57.11	54.25	53.65	53.62	54.16	55.18
Feed costs	39.96	42.28	42.77	41.95	43.97	43.79	43.99	44.86	45.60	48.62	50.89	48.08	47.40	47.41	47.91	48.92
Unit Prices:																
Choice feeder steer 600-700 lb. Amarillo $/cwt.	63.50	61.75	64.15	67.39	74.74	80.23	88.11	90.26	85.90	75.74	79.00	76.13	80.88	78.43	80.78	80.85
Transportation rate $/cwt/100 miles[5]	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22
Commission fee $/cwt.	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50
Milo $/cwt.[6]	3.91	4.17	4.08	3.91	4.05	4.03	4.04	4.15	4.33	4.93	5.34	4.79	4.75	4.70	4.64	4.61
Corn $/cwt[6]	4.25	4.59	4.63	4.46	4.78	4.82	4.81	5.03	5.31	5.77	6.05	5.65	5.45	5.37	5.37	5.39
Cottonseed meal $/cwt.[7]	9.60	10.00	10.80	10.80	11.10	11.00	11.00	10.60	10.60	10.40	10.80	11.00	11.10	11.30	11.70	12.50
Alfalfa hay $/ton[8]	97.50	100.00	100.00	102.50	107.50	105.50	108.00	110.50	102.50	102.50	101.00	99.50	99.00	102.00	106.50	111.50
Feed handling & management charge $/ton	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Interest, annual rate	10.00	10.00	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	11.00	11.75	12.75	13.00	13.00

[1] Represents only what expenses would be if all selected items were paid for during the period indicated. The feed ration and expense items do not necessarily coincide with experience of individual feedlots. For individual use, adjust expenses and prices for management, production level, and locality of operation. Steers are assumed to gain 500 lb. in 180 days at 2.8 lb per day with feed conversion of 8.4 lb. per pound gain. [2] Most cattle sold F.O.B. the feedlot with 4 percent shrink. [3] Sale weight 1,056 pounds (1,100 pounds less 4 percent shrink). [4] Choice slaughter steers, 900-1,100 lb., Texas-New Mexico direct. [5] Converted from cents per mile for a 44,000 pound haul. [6] Texas Panhandle elevator price plus $.15/cwt. handling and transportation to feedlots. [7] Average prices paid by farmers in Texas. [8] Average price received by farmers in Texas plus $30/ton handling and transportation to feedlots

Table 3—Corn Belt cattle feeding

Selected expenses at current rates[1]

Purchased during / Marketed during	Sept. / Mar.	Oct. / Apr.	Nov. / May	Dec. / June	Jan. 79 / July	Feb. / Aug.	Mar. / Sept.	Apr. / Oct.	May / Nov.	June / Dec.	July / Jan. 80	Aug. / Feb.	Sept. / Mar.	Oct. / Apr.	Nov. / May	Dec. / June
	Dollars per head															
Expenses:																
600 lb. feeder steer	386.76	389.28	389.10	418.98	451.74	481.56	523.50	539.88	529.92	493.14	494.88	475.86	512.04	487.74	494.64	496.80
Transportation to feedlot (400 mile)	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28	5.28
Corn (45 bu.)	83.70	87.30	90.90	91.80	93.60	94.50	95.85	101.25	104.40	111.15	122.40	110.70	110.25	105.75	101.70	102.15
Silage (1.7 tons)	28.58	30.02	31.20	31.08	31.99	33.00	33.66	32.63	34.17	35.44	35.85	33.81	34.65	37.54	34.15	34.73
Protein supplement (270 lb.)	27.00	26.86	29.30	29.30	29.16	30.10	30.38	29.84	28.76	29.84	31.18	28.76	30.38	30.78	30.38	31.19
Hay (400 lb.)	9.10	9.65	10.00	9.80	10.20	10.80	11.10	10.65	10.30	9.75	8.90	9.20	9.85	11.00	10.65	11.00
Labor (4 hours)	11.36	11.36	11.68	11.68	11.68	13.16	13.16	13.16	12.80	12.80	12.80	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.20	12.20
Management[2]	5.68	5.68	5.84	5.84	5.84	6.58	6.58	6.58	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.10	6.10	6.10	6.10	6.10
Vet medicine[3]	3.56	3.57	3.59	3.62	3.74	3.80	3.88	3.93	3.96	3.97	4.01	4.00	4.05	4.09	4.10	4.14
Interest on purchase (6 mo.)	17.40	17.52	17.51	18.85	20.33	21.67	23.56	24.29	23.85	22.19	22.27	21.41	23.04	21.95	22.26	22.36
Power, equip, fuel, shelter, depreciation[3]	16.59	16.66	16.72	16.88	17.45	17.71	18.11	18.35	18.46	18.52	18.70	18.68	18.90	19.07	19.11	19.29
Death loss (1% of purchase)	3.87	3.89	3.89	4.19	4.52	4.82	5.24	5.40	5.30	4.93	4.95	4.76	5.12	4.88	4.95	4.97
Transportation (100 miles)	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31	2.31
Marketing expenses	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35
Miscellaneous & indirect costs[3]	7.18	7.20	7.23	7.30	7.55	7.66	7.83	7.93	7.98	8.01	8.09	8.08	8.17	8.25	8.27	8.34
Total	611.72	619.93	627.90	660.26	698.74	736.30	783.79	804.83	797.24	767.08	781.37	744.50	785.69	760.29	759.45	764.21
	Dollars per cwt.															
Selling price/cwt. required to cover feed and feeder costs (1,050 lb.)	50.97	51.72	52.43	55.33	58.73	61.90	66.14	68.02	67.39	64.70	66.02	62.70	66.40	63.89	63.95	64.37
Selling price/cwt. required cover all costs (1,050 lb.)	58.26	59.04	59.80	62.88	66.55	70.12	74.65	76.65	75.93	73.06	74.42	70.90	74.83	72.22	72.33	72.78
Feed costs per 100 lb. gain	32.97	34.18	35.87	36.00	36.66	37.42	38.00	38.75	39.47	41.37	44.07	40.55	41.14	40.69	39.31	39.79
Choice steers, Omaha	71.04	75.00	73.99	68.53	67.06	62.74	67.84	65.81	67.00	67.78						
Net margin/cwt.	+12.78	+15.96	+14.19	+5.65	+0.53	-7.38	-6.81	-10.84	-8.93	+3.08						
Prices:																
Feeder steer Choice (600-700 lb. Kansas City/cwt.)	64.46	64.88	64.85	69.83	75.29	80.26	87.25	89.98	88.32	82.19	82.48	79.31	85.34	81.29	82.44	82.80
Corn/bu.	1.86	1.94	2.02	2.04	2.08	2.10	2.13	2.24	2.32	2.47	2.72	2.46	2.45	2.37	2.26	2.27
Hay/ton[4]	45.50	48.25	50.00	49.00	51.00	54.00	55.50	53.25	51.50	48.75	44.50	46.00	49.25	55.00	53.25	55.01
Corn silage/ton[5]	16.81	17.66	18.35	18.28	18.82	19.41	19.80	19.19	20.10	20.85	21.09	19.89	20.38	20.93	20.09	20.43
32-36% Protein supp./cwt.[6]	10.00	9.95	10.85	10.85	10.80	11.15	11.25	11.05	10.65	11.05	11.55	10.65	11.25	11.40	11.25	11.55
Farm Labor/hour[6]	2.84	2.84	2.92	2.92	2.92	3.29	3.29	3.29	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05	3.05
Interest annual rate	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Transportation rate/cwt. 100 mile[7]	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22.	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22
Marketing expenses[8]	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35	3.35
Index of prices paid by farmers (1910-14 = 100)	757	760	763	770	796	808	826	837	842	845	853	852	862	870	872	880

[1] Represents only what expenses would be if all selected items were paid for during the period indicated. The feed ration and expense items do not necessarily coincide with experience of individual feeders. For individual use, adjust expenses and prices for management, production level and locality of operation. [2] Assumes one hour at twice the labor rate. [3] Adjusted monthly by the index of prices paid by farmers for commodities, services, interest, taxes and wage rates. [4] Average price received by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. [5] Corn silage price derived from an equivalent price of 5 bushels corn and 330 lb. hay. [6] Average price paid by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. [7] Converted from cents/mile for a 44,000 pound haul. [8] Yardage plus commission fees at a midwest terminal market.

ond quarter will largely determine the magnitude of second quarter fed cattle marketings. Beef production this spring may total less than 5.0 billion pounds, the lowest second quarter production since 1966.

Fed cattle prices declined from the upper-$60's in early January to the lower-mid-$60's in late January. Prices are expected to increase to the upper $60's as the number of excessively finished cattle declines. First-quarter prices for Choice 900-1,100 pound steers will probably average around $67. Choice fed steer prices in the second quarter are expected to average in the lower-$70's. Yearling feeder steers may average in the low-$80's in the first quarter. Prices will increase to the mid-$80's in the second quarter as the grazing season begins and feeders face increased competition from stocker operations and feeder cattle producers wishing to utilize excess forage. Despite larger supplies of competing meats and a slowing economy the likely drop in beef production is expected to support rising fed cattle prices in the second quarter.

First-half retail beef prices are now expected to rise about 6 to 8 percent over the $2.28 average in the second half of 1979. This would be a 7- to 9-percent increase over first-half 1979 prices. Retail beef prices probably will tend upward during the first half of 1980 with the largest month-to-month increases in the second quarter.

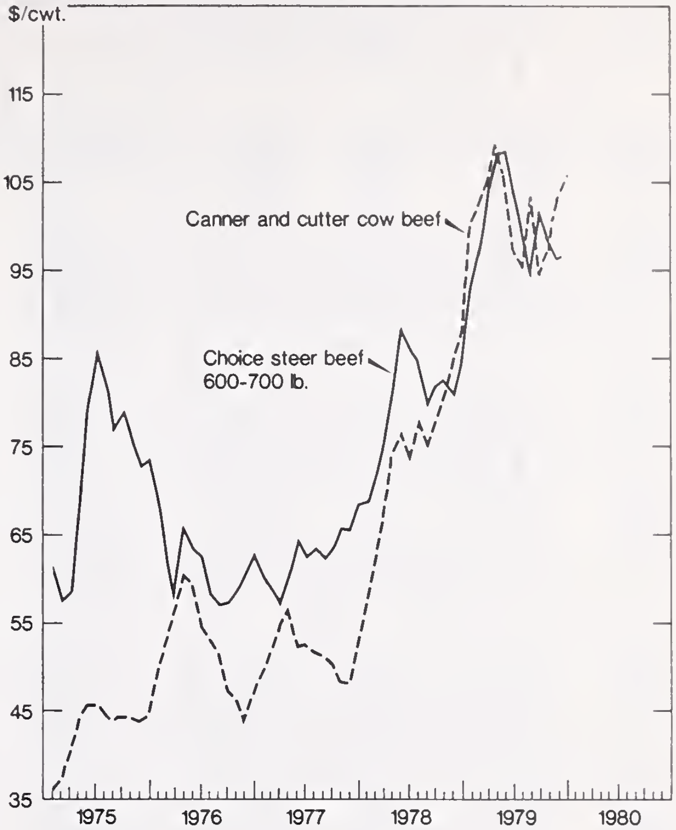
Second Half Prospects

Beef production in the second half of 1980 will increasingly depend on the cattle feeders expectations. It seems unlikely that sufficient numbers of cattle will go on feed in the second and third quarters to increase second-half 1980 beef production to or above year-earlier levels. Increased placements of this magnitude would require a substantial drop in the nonfed steer and heifer slaughter. Lower beef production and an improved general economic situation should serve to give added price strength to beef prices in the second half of 1980. However, total red meat and poultry supplies will remain large.

Average Value of Inventory Up in 1979

The average value per head of all cattle and calves on January 1 has more than doubled since 1978, increasing from $232 to $502 per head. The value of the cattle herd has increased from $27.1 billion in 1978, to $44.7 billion in 1979 and $55.7 billion in 1980. This increase in the value of the herd occurred despite the decline in the total cattle and calf inventory between 1978 and 1979. Increases in the average value per head will moderate in 1980, but the total value will increase as the herd size increases.

Carlot Meat Prices Central U.S. Markets*



*Prior to 1978, midwest mkts.

Number of Cattle Farms And Ranches Decline

Farms and ranches with cattle declined by 64,610 operations between 1978 and 1979 to 1,650,660 operations. The number of operations with fewer than 50 cattle and calves, 100 to 499, and 500 head or more, all increased slightly or maintained their share of total operations. However, the proportion of farms with 50 to 100 head of cattle declined between 1978 and 1979. The proportionate share of the total cattle inventory increased for the larger farms with the greatest growth (1 percent) occuring in the 500 head or more operation size.

HOGS

Commercial hog slaughter in 1979 increased to 89.1 million head, up 15 percent from a year earlier and the largest slaughter since 1971. The largest year-to-year increases in slaughter came in the second half of the year. Hog slaughter was up 19 percent in the third quarter and 24 percent in the fourth; whereas, it was up only 3 percent in the first quarter and 14 percent in the second.

Prices for pork products fell as hog slaughter increased throughout the year. The retail pork

Table 4 —Pork supplies and prices

Year	Estimated commercial slaughter[1]				Average dressed weight	Commercial production	Per capita consumption[2]	Prices		
	Barrows and gilts	Sows	Boars	Total				Retail	Barrows and gilts 7 markets[3]	Farm[3]
	1,000 head				*Lb.*	*Mil lb.*	*Lb.*	*Cents per lb.*	*$/cwt.*	
1975: I ...	17,711	886	162	18,759	167	3,142	15.5	114.1	39.35	38.43
II ...	16,704	939	165	17,808	168	2,992	14.4	122.7	46.11	43.93
III ...	14,151	1,003	153	15,307	167	2,555	12.5	148.8	58.83	56.20
IV ...	15,659	982	172	16,813	172	2,896	13.7	152.9	52.20	51.67
Year	64,225	3,810	652	68,687	169	11,585	56.1	134.6	48.32	47.56
1976: I ...	16,605	694	132	17,431	170	2,958	14.4	141.2	47.99	47.10
II ...	15,962	718	141	16,821	169	2,847	13.5	138.2	49.19	47.93
III ...	16,872	964	147	17,983	168	3,014	14.4	137.1	43.88	43.30
IV ...	20,215	1,184	150	21,549	170	3,669	17.2	119.6	34.25	33.57
Year	69,654	3,560	570	73,784	169	12,488	59.5	134.0	43.11	42.98
1977: I ...	18,522	1,031	217	19,770	167	3,294	15.6	120.5	39.08	38.23
II ...	17,582	950	211	18,743	170	3,184	14.9	121.7	40.87	39.57
III ...	17,002	1,086	205	18,293	168	3,073	14.7	131.0	43.85	42.63
IV ...	19,139	1,167	191	20,497	171	3,500	16.3	128.2	41.38	39.73
Year	72,245	4,234	824	77,303	169	13,051	61.5	125.4	41.07	40.04
1978: I ...	18,200	1,011	194	19,405	167	3,243	15.2	137.0	47.44	46.20
II ...	17,940	906	196	19,042	171	3,265	15.0	142.4	47.84	46.77
III ...	17,343	1,025	185	18,553	170	3,160	15.0	144.7	48.52	46.77
IV ...	19,037	1,096	182	20,315	174	3,541	16.2	150.1	50.05	48.60
Year	72,520	4,038	757	77,315	171	13,209	61.4	143.6	48.49	47.08
1979 I	18,902	952	186	20,040	170	3,399	15.9	156.1	51.98	50.93
II ...	20,513	1,008	220	21,741	173	3,760	17.2	148.2	43.04	42.53
III ...	20,382	1,444	250	22,076	171	3,779	17.7	138.0	38.52	36.97
IV ..	23,360	1,602	269	25,231	172	4,352	19.6	134.3	36.39	35.30
Year	83,157	5,006	925	89,088	172	15,290	70.4	144.1	42.48	41.43

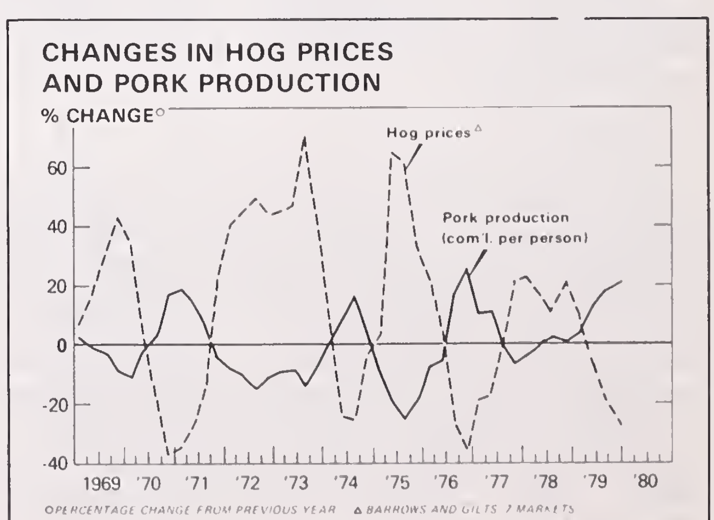
[1] Classes estimated. [2] Total, including farm production. [3] Annual average weighted.

price peaked in February at $1.57 per pound and then declined continuously through November to a low of $1.32 per pound. It then increased to $1.36 per pound in December as hog slaughter declined seasonally at year-end. For the year, the retail price averaged $1.44 per pound, almost the same as a year ago when prices increased throughout most of the year.

Packers similarly lowered their bids for hogs as the retail price of pork declined. The price for barrows and gilts at seven major terminal markets peaked at $54.42 in February, but fell to a low of $34.70 in October. The 1979 weighted average price of barrows and gilts at the seven major markets was $42.06, down from $48.49 in 1978.

Returns to Hog Producers Fell in 1979

Preliminary ESCS cost of production estimates indicated that net returns to hog producers fell more than hog prices. Gross returns to farrow-to-finish producers (who supply 75 to 80 percent of the total supply of hogs for slaughter) from sales of market hogs and sows fell from about $47 per hundredweight sold in 1978 to $41 in 1979. But increased costs further decreased net returns. Cash costs were estimated to be $38 per hundredweight sold in 1979, up from $34 in 1978. Thus, the net return to producers declined by about $10 for every hundredweight sold, leaving only $3 to cover non-cash items such as family labor, management,

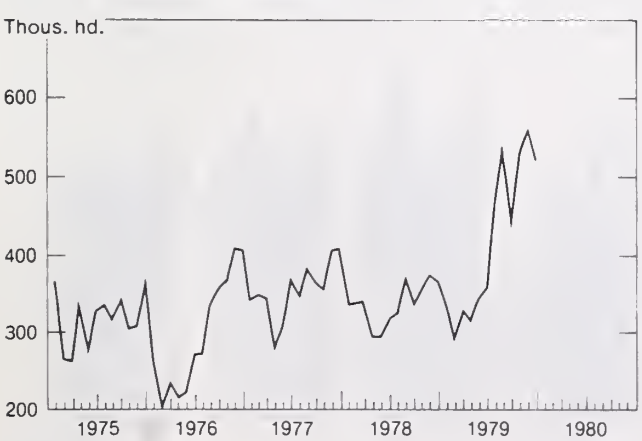


Federally inspected hog slaughter

Week ended 1978[1]	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
	Thousands				
Jan. 6	1,588	1,407	1,399	1,247	1,179
13	1,432	1,326	1,357	1,473	1,625
20	1,385	1,227	1,495	1,376	1,389
27	1,450	1,203	1,344	1,261	1,345
Feb. 3	1,424	1,208	1,388	1,527	1,383
Feb. 10	1,419	1,234	1,520	1,437	1,381
17	1,340	1,168	1,470	1,551	1,488
24	1,352	1,255	1,379	1,348	1,367
Mar. 3	1,453	1,273	1,534	1,424	1,533
Mar. 10	1,395	1,422	1,632	1,579	1,592
17	1,393	1,403	1,568	1,508	1,662
24	1,315	1,383	1,609	1,422	1,607
31	1,404	1,388	1,518	1,452	1,641
Apr. 7	1,439	1,387	1,502	1,508	1,644
14	1,478	1,290	1,488	1,608	1,669
21	1,401	1,271	1,576	1,504	1,609
28	1,368	1,321	1,522	1,588	1,710
May 65	1,301	1,309	1,527	1,498	1,757
12	1,221	1,316	1,439	1,522	1,680
19	1,221	1,197	1,336	1,377	1,598
26	1,101	1,257	1,283	1,329	1,593
June 2	1,294	1,038	1,112	1,138	1,390
June 9	1,254	1,199	1,383	1,377	1,647
16	1,163	1,155	1,298	1,283	1,631
23	1,132	1,103	1,253	1,297	1,398
30	853	1,024	1,164	1,266	1,600
July 7	1,061	941	949	1,054	1,269
14	1,100	1,159	1,232	1,378	1,629
21	1,055	1,181	1,214	1,376	1,590
28	1,027	1,265	1,287	1,318	1,591
Aug. 4	1,051	1,342	1,264	1,337	1,638
11	1,157	1,344	1,315	1,367	1,662
18	1,057	1,332	1,342	1,329	1,692
27	1,169	1,401	1,368	1,349	1,664
Sept. 1	996	1,350	1,411	1,404	1,673
Sept. 8	1,267	1,227	1,270	1,251	1,509
15	1,258	1,579	1,568	1,579	1,776
22	1,198	1,508	1,590	1,581	1,764
29	1,188	1 593	1,547	1,497	1,771
Oct. 6	1,159	1,647	1,505	1,479	1,870
13	1,193	1,660	1,582	1,533	1,950
20	1,163	1,669	1,597	1,475	1,929
27	1,194	1,599	1,487	1,478	1,909
Nov. 3	1,275	1,729	1,685	1,527	1,935
Nov. 10	1,336	1,706	1,603	1,549	2,016
17	1,376	1,646	1,655	1,651	1,826
24	1,069	1,386	1,308	1,328	1,548
Dec. 1	1,372	1,644	1,623	1,642	1,981
Dec. 8	1,237	1,614	1,462	1,613	1,940
15	1,219	1,522	1,504	1,497	1,851
22	949	1,140	1,369	1,489	1,746
29	970	1,206	1,187	1,149	1,276

[1] Corresponding dates: 1975, January 11; 1976, January 10; 1977, January 8; 1978, January 7.

Commercial Sow Slaughter*



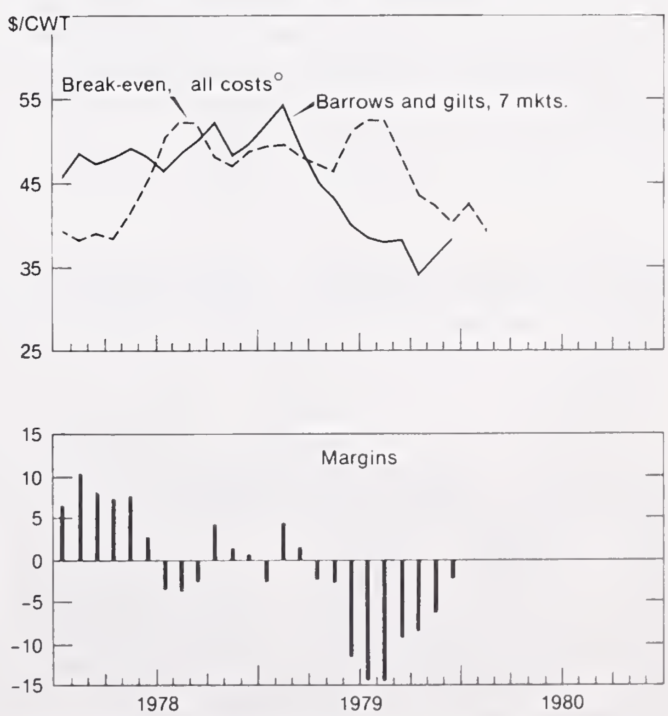
*Estimated

Hog prices, costs, and net margins[1]

Year	Barrows & gilts 7 markets	Feed and Feeder	Break-even	Net margins
	$ per cwt.			
1977				
January	39.52	33.60	40.65	-1.13
February ...	40.18	28.62	35.46	+4.72
March	37.53	27.23	34.14	+3.39
April	36.97	30.41	37.42	-.45
May	41.79	30.75	37.83	+3.96
June	43.86	34.91	42.43	+1.43
July	45.76	37.99	45.70	+.06
August	44.38	39.89	47.71	-3.33
September ..	41.40	39.25	47.21	-5.81
October	40.83	35.71	43.48	-2.65
November ..	39.33	34.15	41.96	-2.63
December ...	43.99	33.45	41.22	+2.77
1978				
January	45.99	31.89	39.58	+6.41
February ...	48.83	30.64	38.25	+10.58
March	47.50	31.63	39.31	+8.19
April	46.04	31.00	38.62	+7.42
May	49.17	33.44	41.33	+7.85
June	48.31	36.97	45.40	+2.91
July	46.78	41.37	50.09	-3.31
August	48.77	43.88	52.71	-3.94
September ..	50.00	43.58	52.26	-2.26
October	52.23	39.60	48.01	+4.22
November ..	48.36	38.71	47.12	+1.24
December ...	49.57	40.35	49.02	+.55
1979				
January	52.13	40.85	49.63	+2.50
Febuary	54.42	41.04	49.79	+4.63
March	49,38	39.56	48.27	+1.11
April	45.04	38.58	47.23	-2.19
May	43.79	37.67	46.35	-2.56
June	40.29	42.60	52.09	-11.80
July	38.73	43.17	52.76	-14.03
August	38.21	42.73	52.28	-14.07
September ..	38.62	38.58	47.74	-9.12
October	34.70	34.49	43.31	-8.61
November ..	36.01	33.58	42.25	-6.24
December ...	38.45	32.30	40.83	-2.38
1980				
January		33.96	42.65	
February ...		30.83	39.35	
March		31.98	40.93	
April		32.04	41.02	

[1] Selling price required to cover costs of feeding 40-50 lb. feeder pig to 220 lb. slaughter hog in Corn Belt.

Hog Prices, Costs, and Net Margins



°Selling price required to cover costs of feeding 40-50 lb. feeder pig to 220 lb slaughter hog in corn belt

taxes, and ownership costs. Approximately $3 of the increase in cash costs came from higher feed costs.

Returns to feeder pig finishing operations also declined sharply in 1979. Returns from sales of market hogs were $42 per hundredweight sold, but cash costs were $46 per hundredweight, so these producers did not even cover cash costs. In 1978, returns were $48 and cash costs were $44. (The ESCS average cost of production estimates differ from the budget presented in the Corn Belt feeder pig finishing table).

Returns to producers of feeder pigs suffered a similar decline in net returns, but they still covered cash expenses. Gross returns in 1979 to producers from sales of feeder pigs and cull sows averaged $66 per hundredweight sold, $6 above their cash costs. Returns had been much higher in 1978 when gross returns averaged $88 and cash costs averaged $53.

The decline in net returns during 1979 for all three types of hog producing enterprises led many producers to stop expansion. By mid-year, producers were sending much larger numbers of sows to market than they had in 1978. Sow slaughter from June to November of 1979 was about 40 percent above a year earlier. Additions of gilts to the breeding inventory did not offset the increased sow slaughter, so the breeding inventory declined by 852,000 head from June 1, 1979 to December 1, 1979. By December 1, the breeding inventory had fallen to year-earlier levels.

Producers also lowered their farrowing plans for early 1980 because of lower returns. In September, producers in the 14 States surveyed indicated that December 1979-February 1980 farrowings might be up 10 percent. But in December, they indicated December-February farrowings would only be equal to year-ago levels and March-May farrowings might be down one percent.

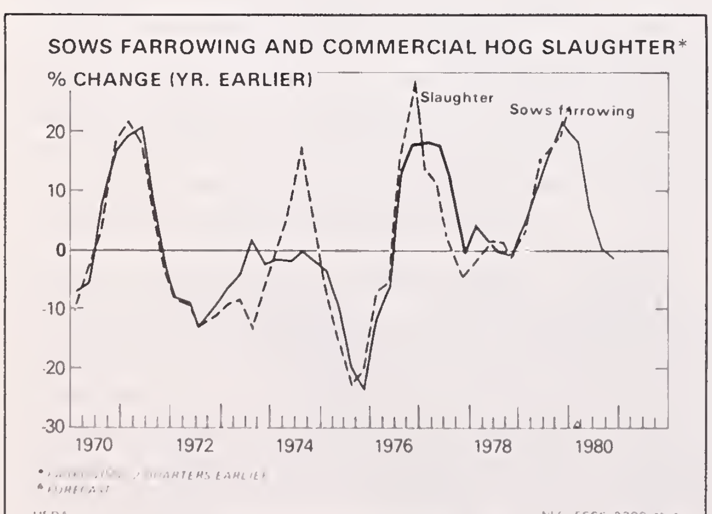
Producers have continued to market sows in large numbers since November. Sow slaughter under Federal inspection during December was up 40 percent and preliminary estimates indicate that sow slaughter during January was also up 40 percent. With these high levels of sow slaughter since November, it is possible that March-May farrowings may fall more than 1 percent below a year earlier.

Slaughter Continues Large This Winter

Hog slaughter under Federal inspection during the first 6 weeks of 1980 was up 26 percent from a year earlier. During the week ended January 12, 1980, daily slaughter twice exceeded the previous record of 378,000 hogs; 380,000 were slaughtered on January 8 and 389,000 were slaughtered on January 10.

Market weights during the first 6 weeks were above year-ago levels in spite of less favorable hog-feed price relationships. Mild winter weather and a larger percentage of sows in the slaughter mix boosted dressed weights of hogs to 173 pounds, 3 pounds above a year ago. The higher dressed weights increased pork production by 28 percent over the same period a year ago. Year-to-year increases in hog slaughter are expected to taper off later in the quarter, so commercial hog slaughter in the first quarter may be about 24 million head, up 20 percent from a year ago. Commercial pork production may be near 4.1 billion pounds, up 21 percent.

Hog slaughter and pork production may decline slightly in the second quarter from the previous quarter, but still be 8 to 10 percent above year-ago levels. Hog slaughter may be 23.5 to 24.0 million head and pork production may be 4.0 to 4.1 billion pounds.



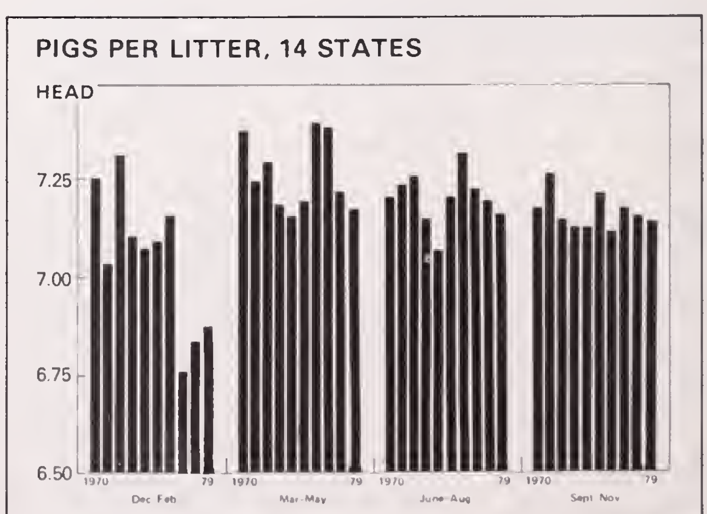


Table 5 —Corn Belt hog feeding[1]

Selected costs at current rates[2]

Purchased during / Marketed during	Sept. / Jan. 79	Oct. / Feb.	Nov. / Mar.	Dec. / Apr.	Jan. 79 / May	Feb. / June	Mar. / July	Apr. / Aug.	May / Sept.	June / Oct.	July / Nov.	Aug. / Dec.	Sept. / Jan. 80	Oct. / Feb.	Nov. / Mar.	Dec. / Apr.
	Dollars per head															
Expenses:																
40 lb. feeder pig	52.91	51.84	47.01	44.49	42.26	52.54	53.14	50.84	40.89	30.11	24.14	25.53	29.30	23.10	26.35	26.00
Corn (11 bu.)	20.46	21.34	22.22	22.44	22.88	23.10	23.43	24.64	25.52	27.17	29.92	27.06	27.39	26.07	24.97	25.96
Protein supplement (130 lb.)	16.51	17.10	17.81	17.94	17.74	18.07	18.40	18.52	18.46	18.59	19.82	18.46	18.46	18.66	17.94	18.53
Labor & management (1.3 hr.)	7.38	7.38	7.59	7.59	7.59	8.55	8.55	8.55	8.32	8.32	8.32	7.93	7.93	7.93	8.63	8.63
Vet medicine[3]	1.79	1.80	1.81	1.82	1.88	1.91	1.96	1.98	1.99	2.00	2.02	2.02	2.04	2.06	2.07	2.09
Interest on purchase (4 mo.)	1.59	1.56	1.41	1.33	1.27	1.58	1.59	1.53	1.23	.90	.72	.77	.88	.69	.79	.78
Power, equip, fuel, shelter, depreciation[3]	4.36	4.38	4.39	4.44	4.58	4.65	4.76	4.82	4.85	4.87	4.91	4.91	4.97	5.01	5.02	5.07
Death loss (4% of purchase)	2.12	2.07	1.88	1.78	1.69	2.10	2.13	2.03	1.64	1.20	.97	1.02	1.17	.92	1.05	1.04
Transportation (100 miles)	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48	.48
Marketing expenses	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14
Miscellaneous & indirect costs[3]	.45	.45	.45	.45	.47	.48	.49	.49	.50	.50	.50	.50	.51	.51	.51	.52
Total	109.19	109.54	106.19	103.90	101.98	114.60	116.07	115.02	105.02	95.28	92.94	89.82	93.83	86.57	90.05	90.24
	Dollars per cwt															
Selling price/cwt. required To cover feed and feeder costs (220 lb.)	40.85	41.04	39.56	38.58	37.67	42.60	43.17	42.73	38.58	34.49	33.58	32.30	33.96	30.83	31.98	32.04
Selling price/cwt. required to cover all costs (220 lb.)	49.63	49.79	48.27	47.23	46.35	52.09	52.76	52.28	47.74	43.31	42.25	40.83	42.65	39.35	40.93	41.02
Feed cost per 100 lb. gain	20.54	21.36	22.24	22.43	22.57	22.87	23.24	23.98	24.43	25.42	27.63	25.29	25.23	24.72	24.45	24.72
Barrows and gilts 7 markets/cwt.	52.13	54.42	49.38	45.04	43.79	40.29	38.73	38.21	38.62	34.70	36.01	38.45				
Net margin/cwt.	+2.50	+4.63	+1.11	-2.19	-2.56	-11.80	-14.03	-14.07	-9.12	-8.61	-6.24	-2.38				
Prices:																
40 lb. feeder pig (So. Missouri)	52.91	51.84	47.01	44.49	42.26	52.54	53.14	50.84	40.89	30.11	24.14	25.53	29.30	23.10	26.35	26.00
Corn[4] \$/bu	1.86	1.94	2.02	2.04	2.08	2.10	2.13	2.24	2.32	2.47	2.72	2.46	2.49	2.37	2.21	2.36
38-42% protein supp.[5] \$/cwt.	12.70	13.15	13.70	13.80	13.65	13.90	14.15	14.25	14.20	14.30	15.25	14.20	14.20	14.35	13.80	14.25
Labor and management[6] \$/hr.	5.68	5.68	5.84	5.84	5.84	6.58	6.58	6.58	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.10	6.10	6.10	6.64	6.64
Interest rate (annual)	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Transporation rate/cwt. (100 miles)[7]	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22	.22
Marketing expenses[8]	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14	1.14
Index of prices paid by farmers (1910-14 = 100)	757	760	763	770	796	808	826	837	842	845	853	852	862	870	872	880

[1] Although a majority of hog feeding operations in the Corn Belt are from farrow to finish, relative fattening expenses will be similar. [2] Represents only what expenses would be if all selected items were paid for during the period indicated. The feed rations and expense items do not necessarily coincide with the experience of individual feeders. For individual use, adjust expenses and price for management, production level, and locality of operation. [3] Adjusted monthly by the index of prices paid by farmers for commodities, services, interest, taxes and wage rates. [4] Average price received by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. [5] Average prices paid by farmers in Iowa and Illinois. [6] Assumes an owner-operator receiving twice the farm labor rate. [7] Converted to cents/cwt. from cents/mile for a 44,000 pound haul. [8] Yardage plus commission fees at a midwest terminal market.

Hog Prices Continue Low; Expected To Increase in Second Half 1980

Hog prices during the first six weeks of 1980 averaged in the upper-$30's and are expected to average near $38 for the first quarter. Heavy slaugher weights for cattle kept downward pressure on both cattle and hog prices during January.

Hog prices may also average near $38 the second quarter. Prices are expected to remain under pressure of record second-quarter hog slaughter, quarter-to-quarter increases of broiler production, and seasonally weak demand. However, beef production is expected to be sharply below that of the previous quarter and 2 to 4 percent below year-earlier levels.

Hog prices may increase sharply in the second half of the year if December-May sow farrowings are near or below year-earlier levels. Less price competition from beef is expected, although poultry production may expand to fill some of this void. Hog prices could average in the mid-$40's during the second half of 1980.

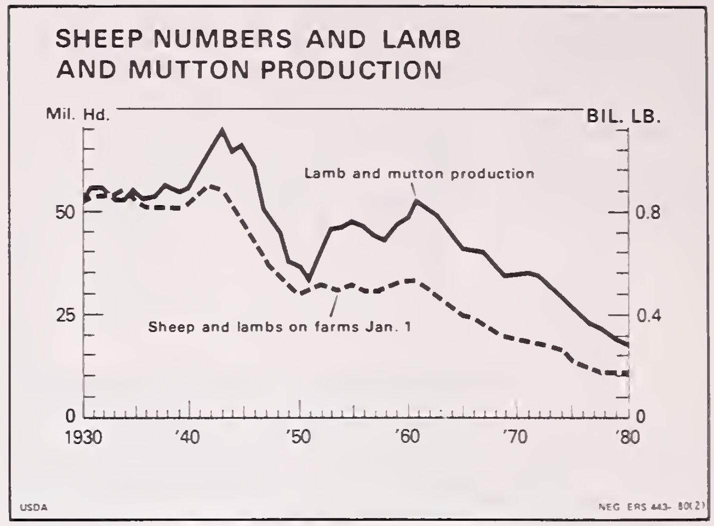
SHEEP AND LAMBS

The inventory of sheep and lambs on farms on January 1, 1980 was estimated at 12.5 million head, up 2 percent from a year earlier. This ended a 19-year decline of the sheep inventory beginning in 1961 during which numbers fell by 63 percent.

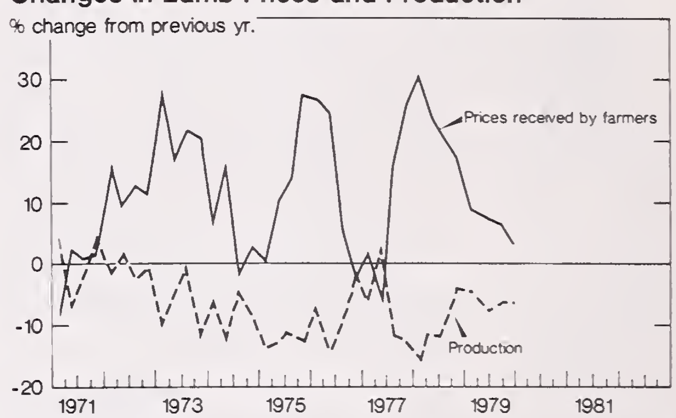
The decline of the inventory since 1960 resulted in reduced lamb and mutton production and, since 1971, higher prices for lambs. The average price received by farmers rose to a record $67 in 1979, more than twice the 1971 level. However, in spite of increasing prices, many producers were not even covering cash costs until after 1974. But, the sharp increases in prices received by farmers for lambs reversed the financial situation for many producers since 1975.

Higher prices for wool also improved the financial situation for producers. The average price received by farmers for wool in 1979 averaged 86 cents per pound, up from 74.5 cents a year earlier and the highest price on record. Wool prices are expected to continue strong as higher heating costs may encourage purchases of woolen clothing. Also wool may experience less price competition from manmade fibers, as manmade fiber prices increase sharply because of higher petroleum costs.

Sheep producers also received higher returns because the incentive payment to wool growers increased since 1976. The incentive payment was frozen at 72 cents per pound from 1970 to 1976, but was boosted to 99 cents in 1977. The incentive payment increased to $1.08 for 1978 and $1.15 for 1979.



Changes in Lamb Prices and Production



*Estimated commercial (lambs and yearlings).

These increased returns encouraged producers to slaughter less of their flocks and to hold more lambs for flock replacement and expansion. Accordingly, slaughter as a percent of the January 1 inventory fell the last two years. Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter in 1979 was equivalent to 41.1 percent of the January 1 inventory and 43.5 percent of the beginning inventory in 1978. This was well below the 1961-1977 average when commercial slaughter accounted for 50 percent or more of beginning inventory.

So, although the January 1, 1979 inventory was down only 1 percent and the 1979 lamb crop was about the same as a year earlier, commercial slaughter was down about 7 percent from 1978.

The decrease in slaughter is reflected in the number of ewe lambs on farms January 1, 1980. This category of the inventory had 7 percent more lambs than a year earlier. Ewes one year old and older were up 2 percent.

Although slaughter was down 7 percent from 1978, slightly higher dressed weights kept production from declining as much. Lamb and

Table 6 — Lamb supplies and prices

Year	Commercial slaughter[1]			Average dressed weight	Commercial production	Per capita consumption[2]	Retail	Prices		
								San Angelo		Farm[3]
	Lambs and yearlings	Sheep	Total					Choice slaughter	Choice feeder	
	1,000 head			*Lb.*	*Mil. lb.*	*Lb.*	*Cents/lb.*	*Dollars per/cwt.*		
1976: I	1,647	69	1,716	55	95	.5	179.5	51.50	51.45	48.43
II	1,423	138	1,561	53	82	.4	189.0	58.63	56.94	55.37
III	1,655	123	1,778	52	92	.5	190.2	43.54	47.32	43.37
IV	1,558	101	1,659	55	92	.5	183.7	45.81	49.39	43.07
Year	6,283	431	6,714	54	361	1.9	185.6	49.87	51.28	46.90
1977: I	1,500	82	1,582	57	90	.5	181.8	52.98	54.87	49.00
II	1,465	160	1,625	53	86	.4	183.4	55.76	52.24	52.23
III	1,490	163	1,653	51	84	.4	191.3	51.88	50.80	50.33
IV	1,393	103	1,496	54	81	.4	190.8	56.31	62.59	53.97
Year	5,848	508	6,356	54	341	1.7	186.8	54.23	55.12	51.30
1978: I	1,273	68	1,341	56	75	.4	206.9	67.67	74.72	63.77
II	1,244	130	1,374	55	76	.4	227.2	69.14	72.38	64.07
III	1,238	99	1,337	55	73	.4	221.8	61.07	75.27	60.33
IV	1,231	86	1,317	58	76	.4	222.8	63.44	80.07	63.20
Year	4,986	383	5,369	56	300	1.6	219.6	65.33	75.61	62.70
1979: I	1,153	57	1,210	60	72	.4	241.4	68.97	85.02	69.70
II	1,158	106	1,264	56	71	.4	250.1	73.55	79.01	68.97
III	1,166	96	1,262	54	68	.4	245.9	65.41	71.83	64.37
IV	1,193	87	1,280	56	72	.4	245.2	65.87	74.28	65.47
Year	4,670	346	5,016	56	283	1.6	245.7	68.45	77.54	67.13

[1] Classes estimated. [2] Total, including farm production. [3] Weighted annual average.

mutton production in 1979 was 284 million pounds, 5 percent below 1978 levels.

Sheep and Lambs on Feed Up 3 Percent

On January 1, 1980 there were 1.62 million sheep and lambs on feed for the slaughter markets in 24 States, 3 percent more than a year earlier. The seven major feeding States had 993,000 sheep and lambs on feed, 2 percent less than a year ago.

Of the sheep and lambs on feed in the seven States, lambs weighing 90 pounds or more were up 6 percent. Those weighing less than 90 pounds were down 12 percent. Fed lambs marketed early in the winter quarter come mainly from those that weighed 90 pounds or more. Slaughter of sheep and lambs under Federal inspection during the first 6 weeks of 1980 was up 15 percent from a year ago. Commercial slaughter during the spring quarter is drawn largely from new crop lambs (lambs born after September 30 of the previous year that are on hand January 1), which were down 2 percent from a year earlier. So this spring, slaughter may be near or slightly below year-ago levels.

Lamb Prices to Strengthen

Slaughter lamb prices at San Angelo averaged $67.40 per hundredweight in January, down from $73.80 a year earlier. But prices are expected to increase in the spring and average in the low- to mid-$70's for the year. Prices during March to May usually average about 10 percent above January-February levels. If the seasonal increase occurs this year, prices may average in the mid-$70's for the spring.

CONSUMPTION AND PRICES

Despite expectations of a recession, consumer demand has generally remained strong in recent months. Due to an unexpected increase in consumer expenditures, it now appears that constant dollar Gross National Product (GNP) registered a small increase during the fourth quarter of 1979. Meanwhile, real disposable income declined about 1 percent from year-earlier levels during the fourth quarter and personal savings were further reduced to maintain expenditures.

High inflation rates persisted throughout 1979. The Consumer Price Index for 1979 increased about 11 percent from 1978. The implicit GNP deflator, a broader measure of inflation, was up about 9 percent.

Retail food prices in 1979 increased about 11 percent, with composite red meat prices up about 17 percent and retail poultry prices up about 5 percent. Retail beef prices increased nearly a fourth

as production was about 11½ percent below 1978 levels. Pork prices were about unchanged, despite a nearly 16-percent increase in production.

Per capita consumption of red meat and poultry totaled 243 pounds in 1979, about the same as in 1978—but the mix was different. About 13 fewer pounds of beef and veal was consumed, but this deficit was offset by 9 additional pounds of pork and 4 more pounds of poultry consumed per person.

The outlook for 1980 presents a mixed picture. Recent oil price increases will be reflected in both producer and consumer price boosts over the next several months. Inflation will persist. Increases in the Consumer Price Index may be in the neighborhood of 12 percent. Disposable personal income (in current dollars) may increase by a tenth. But inflation will negate these gains.

The food component of the Consumer Price Index for 1980 may show a 7- to 11-percent increase over 1979. Composite retail red meat price increases are also likely to fall within that range. Retail beef and veal price increases could average 10 to 12 percent as production remains below 1979 levels. However, pork and poultry prices likely will show only small increases as production remains well above 1979 levels.

Consumer Expenditures for Red Meat

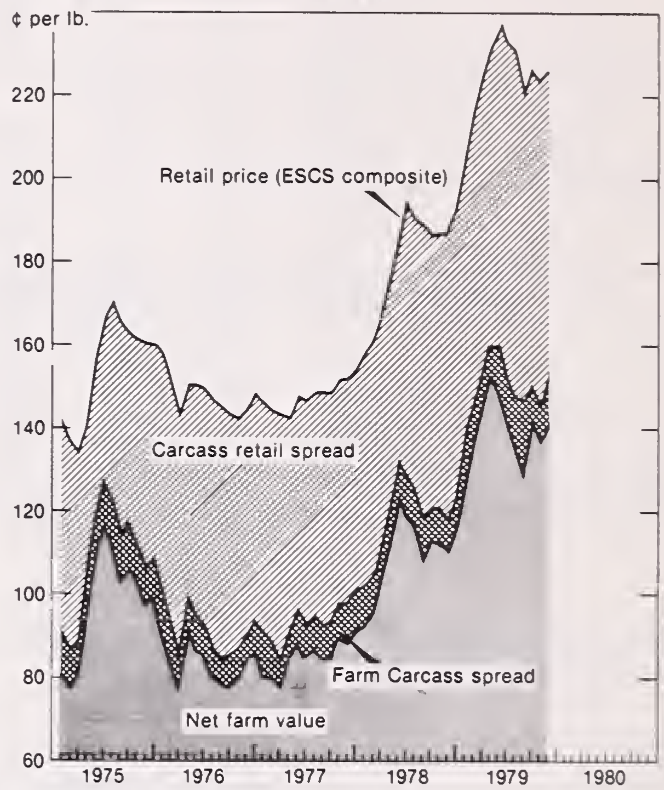
Total meat consumption on a per capita basis in 1980 will be up around 3 pounds from 1979, and will be near the record consumption levels of 1976 and 1977. Again, the mix will be different, with less of the higher priced beef consumed and more of the relatively lower priced pork and poultry consumed.

Consumers, by budget periods, are committed to purchasing certain required goods and services. The economic problem then is to allocate noncommitted income among all other consumption goods. Within the food component, consumers must also allocate their income. During 1979, consumers spent about 3.8 percent of their income for red meat, of which almost 2.5 was for beef. This is expected to decline slightly to 3.7 percent and 2.4 percent respectively, in 1980. Lower-priced pork and poultry have been substituted for beef in the consumer's budget, and larger supplies of these products will continue to provide consumers with an alternative to higher priced beef.

January-June 1980 Outlook

The near-term outlook—first half of 1980—is much different than the conditions which prevailed in January-June 1979. Per capita consumption of red meat and poultry likely will be up around 3 percent. Beef consumption likely will be down about 3 percent, with retail prices up by nearly a tenth. Pork consumption is expected to be up about 11 percent, with prices down about a tenth. Poultry consumption could be up about 6 percent, with retail prices averaging slightly below year-earlier levels. This is a marked contrast to first-half 1979 when retail beef prices averaged nearly 30 percent above year-earlier levels and pork and poultry prices averaged 9 and 12 percent higher, respectively.

Price Spreads for Choice Beef



Price Spreads for Pork

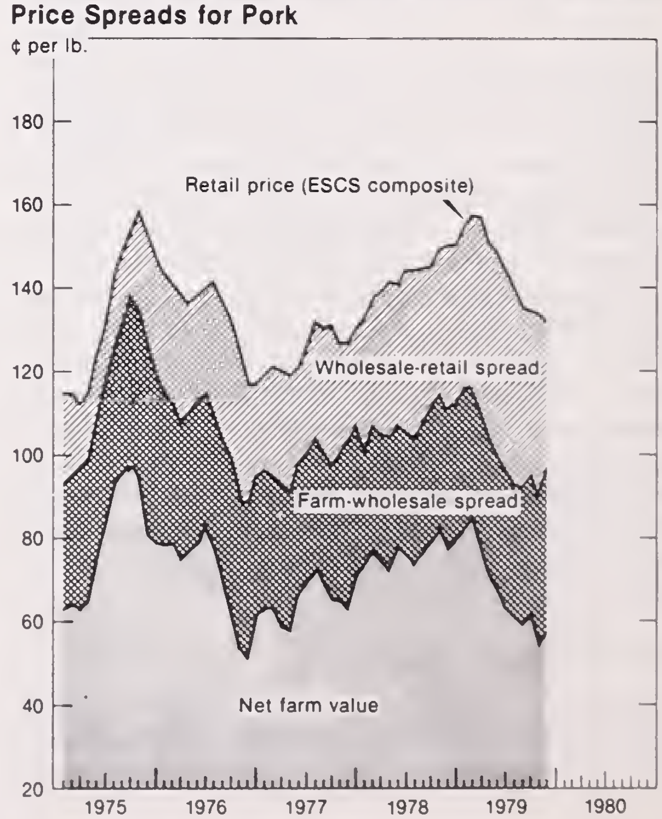


Table 7—Average retail price of meat per pound, United States, by months, 1965 to date[1]

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
							Beef, Choice grade[2]						
1965	78.7	78.0	77.3	79.4	81.2	84.9	85.8	84.9	83.7	83.1	83.9	83.6	82.0
1966	82.9	85.1	86.1	86.6	85.8	83.7	83.5	83.7	84.2	83.3	82.3	85.6	84.4
1967	82.3	82.8	82.7	82.3	81.5	83.9	85.3	86.0	87.6	87.3	86.4	87.3	84.6
1968	86.3	87.1	87.7	87.7	87.9	87.9	89.2	89.1	90.5	89.8	90.2	90.6	88.7
1969	91.6	91.8	93.1	95.5	100.1	104.3	105.0	103.6	101.7	97.8	99.1	99.5	98.6
1970	100.2	100.0	102.3	102.8	102.4	101.5	103.8	103.5	101.9	101.0	100.8	99.7	101.7
1971	100.5	104.7	105.8	107.6	108.6	109.5	108.6	109.6	109.9	109.1	110.4	112.7	108.1
1972	116.0	120.4	120.5	116.6	116.1	118.3	122.3	120.8	117.9	117.8	117.4	119.8	118.7
1973	127.7	136.3	141.7	142.4	142.5	142.0	143.0	151.3	152.1	142.8	141.8	141.3	142.1
1974	150.4	157.8	149.7	143.6	142.3	139.3	145.5	151.3	149.5	144.5	142.1	139.7	146.3
1975	140.5	136.5	134.5	141.8	156.7	167.3	170.8	165.0	162.3	161.9	160.7	160.1	154.8
1976	158.1	151.8	143.9	151.2	151.1	150.1	147.5	144.9	143.4	142.6	145.1	148.5	148.2
1977	147.1	144.0	142.7	143.5	148.4	147.3	148.4	149.4	149.2	152.0	152.5	155.7	148.4
1978	159.5	161.7	167.0	176.0	185.9	195.2	191.6	189.3	187.4	187.6	187.8	193.6	181.9
1979	204.9	215.3	225.9	232.8	240.2	233.6	232.2	220.9	226.6	224.3	226.2	232.6	226.3
							Veal, retail cuts						
1965	82.9	84.2	82.6	82.4	82.9	81.9	84.3	84.5	83.4	85.1	82.6	82.8	83.3
1966	85.1	89.2	89.4	90.3	88.5	90.7	91.1	90.6	91.3	91.3	90.5	91.4	90.0
1967	92.0	90.1	91.4	92.8	93.3	93.7	93.9	96.1	96.3	96.7	97.4	97.2	94.2
1968	99.8	99.2	100.0	102.0	100.0	102.5	101.7	101.4	101.9	101.1	101.9	100.9	101.0
1969	102.5	103.7	104.6	107.5	108.6	112.5	114.0	115.0	115.1	115.2	114.6	116.3	110.8
1970	117.2	119.3	120.8	123.3	123.9	124.9	125.7	126.6	127.0	127.4	127.6	127.9	124.3
1971	128.9	129.4	130.6	132.9	133.7	134.8	138.5	139.3	139.6	140.3	140.6	140.9	135.8
1972	142.8	148.6	149.7	151.0	151.7	154.2	156.4	157.3	157.6	158.4	159.4	159.9	153.9
1973	162.2	169.1	176.9	180.5	181.1	181.3	183.2	188.7	188.5	190.6	186.2	191.6	181.7
1974	194.5	198.4	199.1	194.8	193.3	193.7	192.4	194.8	196.1	192.4	189.1	190.6	194.1
1975	187.0	183.5	179.6	180.2	182.9	183.1	186.6	181.6	178.2	176.8	176.7	177.4	181.1
1976	174.4	173.7	173.3	171.7	173.9	177.2	176.5	175.4	172.9	170.4	170.1	169.8	173.3
1977	176.7	178.4	175.2	175.8	174.9	175.2	174.6	175.6	174.3	172.3	175.8	174.5	175.3
1978	176.5	180.3	183.0	186.0	191.3	210.3	223.0	225.8	228.9	234.0	236.8	237.6	209.5
1979	247.0	254.8	252.2	273.1	289.1	294.4	294.1	293.2	294.2	296.6	298.5	299.8	282.3
							Pork[2]						
1965	56.9	56.1	56.8	56.5	60.2	66.0	69.8	71.1	71.7	70.7	70.5	76.6	65.2
1966	79.3	79.5	76.8	71.9	70.5	72.8	73.4	75.1	73.7	71.1	68.8	67.5	73.4
1967	66.9	65.6	63.9	62.6	65.4	69.4	70.4	69.6	68.7	66.0	66.0	64.3	66.6
1968	64.8	66.1	66.5	65.7	66.1	67.2	68.8	68.4	68.2	67.2	66.5	66.4	66.8
1969	67.3	67.9	68.4	68.5	71.0	74.3	76.2	77.6	78.2	78.0	77.4	79.0	73.6
1970	81.4	81.1	80.7	79.3	79.4	79.4	80.0	79.1	76.1	74.0	70.2	67.9	77.4
1971	67.9	68.9	69.4	68.2	67.7	69.1	70.9	71.1	70.5	70.8	70.9	72.4	69.8
1972	75.8	80.8	78.9	77.7	78.9	81.5	85.1	85.5	86.1	87.0	86.7	88.0	82.7
1973	93.6	96.6	102.5	102.2	101.9	103.6	107.0	130.9	125.7	116.5	114.8	115.2	109.2
1974	116.2	116.7	111.4	104.3	99.0	93.3	103.3	108.3	109.5	108.5	111.0	112.3	107.8
1975	114.6	114.5	113.3	115.4	122.6	130.1	143.3	149.7	153.3	158.2	153.5	147.1	134.6
1976	143.9	141.3	138.4	136.3	138.3	140.1	141.8	137.1	132.4	124.6	117.3	117.0	134.0
1977	119.5	121.0	120.9	118.8	120.8	125.6	132.0	130.2	130.7	126.8	127.4	130.5	125.4
1978	133.8	138.0	139.2	141.6	141.4	144.2	144.2	144.4	145.5	149.4	150.4	150.5	143.6
1979	154.2	157.1	156.9	150.7	149.3	144.5	142.4	135.9	135.6	134.3	132.2	136.3	144.1
							Lamb, Choice grade						
1965	75.4	74.4	76.4	77.5	78.3	81.4	83.8	82.5	81.5	80.5	80.2	79.1	79.2
1966	81.8	85.8	87.6	86.4	85.6	86.6	86.8	86.3	85.2	84.9	86.1	84.5	85.6
1967	84.6	83.4	83.3	82.9	84.6	88.8	89.5	89.3	90.3	89.6	90.2	89.9	87.2
1968	89.8	90.4	92.0	92.5	93.3	93.7	94.5	93.6	93.1	94.5	94.2	93.5	92.9
1969	94.5	95.9	96.4	97.1	100.1	101.8	104.4	102.9	103.4	103.9	103.7	104.8	100.7
1970	104.8	104.8	104.7	105.6	103.9	105.7	106.0	106.3	106.3	105.9	105.9	106.4	105.5
1971	105.9	106.5	107.0	107.4	108.0	109.6	111.4	111.5	112.6	110.9	112.7	113.0	109.7
1972	113.0	115.3	115.5	116.0	115.7	119.0	121.2	121.5	121.0	121.5	122.5	123.7	118.8
1973	125.6	130.2	136.1	135.5	134.2	132.2	133.4	140.4	145.4	135.2	131.3	131.7	134.3
1974	132.6	138.2	141.9	141.3	141.8	144.4	151.4	151.5	154.1	151.8	152.2	155.9	146.4
1975	156.0	157.1	154.5	158.2	164.2	169.2	174.9	173.5	175.7	175.0	176.5	177.0	167.6
1976	178.3	178.3	181.8	184.0	189.0	194.1	193.6	191.2	185.7	184.9	183.6	182.6	185.6
1977	181.4	182.8	181.3	178.3	183.5	188.5	192.6	192.9	188.3	189.2	193.6	189.7	186.8
1978	199.8	206.8	214.0	220.3	224.7	236.7	222.2	222.6	220.7	221.7	223.2	222.6	219.6
1979	235.4	244.4	244.4	248.6	250.7	251.1	248.0	244.8	244.8	242.9	247.3	245.4	245.7

[1] Estimated weighted average price of retail cuts. Compiled by Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service. [2] Series revised. See Special Article in LMS-222, August. 1978.

Table 8—Average retail price of specified meat cuts, per pound, by months, 1973 to date

Year and item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Cents											
Choice Beef:												
Porterhouse steak												
1974	201	208	200	196	197	197	206	217	215	208	208	202
1975	201	199	196	207	234	259	268	259	261	257	251	251
1976	247	232	220	230	232	231	230	224	220	216	219	222
1977	215	215	214	217	231	236	243	244	241	242	238	245
1978	245	253	259	274	290	309	308	305	305	298	297	299
1979	306	318	333	343	358	353	353	342	354	342	346	347
Round steak, full cut B.I.												
1974	163	171	161	157	155	152	160	169	167	160	161	156
1975	154	153	149	157	178	188	190	184	179	182	180	179
1976	177	167	166	173	171	163	161	157	154	149	157	162
1977	158	166	164	165	173	169	169	161	170	170	171	173
1978	176	177	184	197	206	216	205	208	204	203	204	209
1979	220	231	243	253	256	249	243	236	239	235	247	255
Rib roast, small end B.I.												
1974	168	174	166	163	164	161	168	178	177	172	168	166
1975	169	166	160	168	187	212	221	212	206	202	201	201
1976	201	187	182	187	188	187	183	181	180	178	184	188
1977	189	182	180	181	185	186	189	189	188	191	196	204
1978	209	207	210	221	231	245	243	240	240	241	238	245
1979	254	257	270	278	289	288	287	278	278	279	278	288
Rump roast, B.O.												
1974	179	185	176	171	170	167	173	182	180	175	175	172
1975	173	170	167	175	193	200	202	195	194	196	194	193
1976	190	184	175	182	180	179	174	169	169	167	172	174
1977	174	173	172	170	176	172	175	176	173	178	180	181
1978	181	182	190	199	209	218	208	210	206	207	208	212
1979	225	238	248	257	264	258	255	243	246	245	248	255
Chuck blade pot roast B.I.												
1974	101	108	97	91	87	84	90	97	94	90	87	87
1975	87	84	81	88	99	106	109	103	100	101	100	98
1976	97	90	84	88	90	89	83	80	82	82	83	88
1977	85	84	81	82	86	83	82	82	81	87	88	89
1978	92	97	102	110	118	124	120	118	114	117	116	122
1979	137	149	159	164	165	159	158	144	148	148	152	158
Ground beef												
1974	102	106	102	95	93	89	91	93	94	88	85	84
1975	81	78	76	80	88	91	92	88	88	87	86	87
1976	86	85	82	85	87	86	84	82	82	78	80	82
1977	81	81	79	79	82	79	80	82	81	81	82	84
1978	87	94	101	108	115	119	116	116	115	118	118	124
1979	137	147	154	160	168	162	160	151	153	154	152	158
Veal, cutlet												
1974	341	348	350	343	341	342	340	345	348	342	336	339
1975	328	323	317	319	325	326	334	326	321	320	320	323
1976	306	305	304	301	305	310	309	307	302	298	297	296
1977	310	314	310	313	313	315	316	319	318	317	324	324
1978	310	316	321	326	336	369	391	396	402	411	415	417
1979	433	447	442	479	507	516	516	514	516	520	524	526
Pork:												
Top loin chops												
1974	170	172	166	158	157	150	170	172	170	167	168	167
1975	172	169	168	170	183	190	209	209	211	210	210	200
1976	199	198	194	188	194	196	198	190	184	174	171	170
1977	182	180	175	173	180	178	197	196	193	190	188	191
1978	195	199	200	197	202	208	210	209	208	214	216	214
1979	225	231	226	220	219	214	214	203	203	200	198	200
Sirloin roast												
1974	111	114	107	101	99	95	110	113	110	109	111	112
1975	114	113	112	113	122	131	149	149	151	153	151	143
1976	144	143	139	137	139	142	145	137	132	122	115	114
1977	121	122	117	113	118	120	133	129	130	126	124	127
1978	132	138	136	139	140	147	146	147	146	150	152	150
1979	160	167	163	159	156	155	155	146	145	143	139	140
Bacon, sliced												
1974	128	127	118	113	108	100	112	124	131	130	135	134
1975	139	140	138	142	149	157	168	187	196	198	179	167
1976	162	160	155	156	160	161	164	157	158	142	128	127
1977	132	132	133	133	139	142	150	149	155	144	134	135
1978	142	152	162	173	166	162	157	155	156	158	157	156
1979	158	165	164	156	153	144	139	131	135	133	129	135
Ham, Smoked whole												
1974	100	99	99	89	84	77	83	87	87	88	93	97
1975	98	98	95	96	100	103	110	117	121	128	128	130
1976	128	125	123	120	120	121	122	119	111	111	106	117
1977	112	109	115	108	107	119	111	110	112	116	122	128
1978	124	125	125	122	121	123	124	125	129	138	142	143
1979	143	141	142	137	135	126	124	121	120	122	123	130
Lamb, loin chops												
1974	229	234	230	224	234	248	249	249	246	246	247	250
1975	255	257	251	262	270	278	278	281	275	278	279	282
1976	282	280	282	295	316	319	310	303	283	280	288	284
1977	290	299	301	300	320	319	320	306	316	317	319	323
1978	343	347	355	361	363	365	362	357	360	359	362	359
1979	377	390	390	394	404	405	402	395	395	389	400	397

[1] Revised Series: Data from USDA, ESCS retail price survey. BLS data previously used, discontinued.

Table 9—Beef, Choice yield Grade 3: Retail, carcass, and farm values, spreads, and farmers' share, 1965 to present[1]

Year	Retail price[2]	Gross carcass value[3]	Carcass by-product allowance[4]	Net carcass value[5]	Gross farm value[6]	Farm by-product allow-ance[7]	Net farm value[8]	Farm-retail spread: Total	Farm-retail spread: Carcass-retail	Farm-retail spread: Farm-carcass	Farmers' share[9]
	Cents/lb.										*Percent*
1965	82.0	60.2	1.1	59.1	59.9	6.1	53.8	28.2	22.9	5.3	66
1966	84.4	60.7	1.1	59.6	61.0	6.7	54.3	30.1	24.8	5.3	64
1967	84.6	61.7	1.1	60.6	60.4	5.2	55.2	29.4	24.0	5.4	65
1968	88.7	65.5	1.2	64.3	64.0	5.2	58.8	29.9	24.4	5.5	66
1969	98.6	71.3	1.3	70.0	70.7	6.2	64.5	34.1	28.6	5.5	65
1970	101.7	71.1	1.3	69.8	70.2	6.3	63.9	37.8	31.9	5.9	63
1971	108.1	78.8	1.4	77.4	76.7	6.2	70.5	37.6	30.7	6.9	65
1972	118.7	83.5	1.5	82.0	85.0	9.4	75.6	43.1	36.7	6.4	64
1973	142.1	102.5	1.8	100.7	106.8	12.6	94.2	47.9	41.4	6.5	66
1974	146.3	101.8	1.8	100.0	101.5	10.1	91.4	54.9	46.3	8.6	62
1975	154.8	110.2	2.0	108.2	108.6	9.6	99.0	55.8	46.6	9.2	64
1976	148.2	93.1	1.7	91.5	94.4	10.4	84.1	64.1	56.7	7.4	57
1977	148.4	95.7	1.9	93.8	97.3	11.8	85.5	62.9	54.6	8.3	58
1978	181.9	121.6	2.3	119.3	126.1	15.0	111.1	70.8	62.6	8.2	61
1973											
I	135.2	99.3	1.8	97.5	103.1	11.9	91.2	44.0	37.7	6.3	67
II	142.3	104.4	1.9	102.5	109.6	12.8	96.8	45.5	39.8	5.7	68
III	148.8	110.1	2.0	108.1	117.9	14.0	103.9	44.9	40.7	4.2	70
IV	142.0	96.1	1.7	94.4	96.8	11.9	84.9	57.1	47.6	9.5	60
1974											
I	152.6	108.7	2.0	106.7	109.5	12.2	97.3	55.3	45.9	9.4	64
II	141.7	97.8	1.8	96.0	96.4	9.7	86.7	55.0	45.7	9.3	61
III	148.8	106.6	1.9	104.7	107.2	10.4	96.8	52.0	44.1	7.9	65
IV	142.1	94.3	1.7	92.6	92.8	8.4	84.4	57.7	49.5	8.2	59
1975											
I	137.2	90.5	1.6	89.0	87.5	7.2	80.0	57.2	48.2	9.0	58
II	155.3	118.5	2.1	116.4	117.6	9.8	107.8	47.5	38.9	8.6	69
III	166.0	120.6	2.2	118.4	118.1	10.7	107.5	58.5	47.6	10.9	65
IV	160.9	111.3	2.0	109.3	111.0	10.5	100.5	60.4	51.6	8.8	62
1976											
I	151.3	94.3	1.7	92.7	93.4	9.4	84.0	67.3	58.6	8.7	56
II	150.8	97.6	1.7	95.8	100.5	11.5	89.0	61.8	55.0	6.8	59
III	145.3	88.0	1.6	86.4	89.9	10.4	79.5	65.8	58.9	6.9	55
IV	145.4	92.6	1.7	90.9	94.0	10.2	83.8	61.6	54.5	7.1	58
1977											
I	144.6	89.9	1.7	88.2	91.2	11.5	79.7	64.9	56.4	8.5	55
II	146.4	95.5	1.9	93.6	98.6	12.5	87.0	59.4	52.8	6.6	59
III	149.0	96.1	2.1	93.9	97.3	11.6	85.7	63.3	55.1	8.2	58
IV	153.4	101.3	1.9	99.4	102.3	11.7	90.5	62.9	54.0	8.9	59
1978											
I	162.7	108.5	2.0	106.4	110.4	12.6	97.8	64.9	56.3	8.6	60
II	185.7	129.1	2.2	126.9	133.8	14.2	119.6	66.1	58.8	7.3	64
III	189.4	124.3	2.4	121.9	129.3	16.2	113.1	76.3	67.5	8.8	60
IV	189.7	124.5	2.4	122.1	131.0	17.2	113.8	75.9	67.6	8.3	60
1977											
Jan.	147.1	91.7	1.7	90.0	91.9	11.2	80.7	66.4	57.1	9.3	55
Feb.	144.0	90.3	1.7	88.6	91.5	11.3	80.2	63.8	55.4	8.4	56
Mar.	142.7	87.7	1.8	85.9	90.3	12.1	78.2	64.5	56.8	7.7	55
Apr.	143.5	92.8	1.9	90.9	97.2	13.1	84.1	59.4	52.6	6.8	59
May	148.4	97.9	1.9	96.0	101.3	12.8	88.5	59.9	52.4	7.5	60
June	147.3	95.7	1.9	93.8	97.2	11.7	85.5	61.8	53.5	8.3	58
July	148.4	96.9	2.1	94.8	98.6	11.6	87.0	61.4	53.6	7.8	59
Aug.	149.4	95.3	2.2	93.1	96.1	11.6	84.5	64.9	56.3	8.6	57
Sept.	149.2	96.0	2.1	93.9	97.2	11.5	85.7	63.5	55.3	8.2	57
Oct.	152.0	100.4	1.9	98.5	101.8	11.5	90.3	61.7	53.5	8.2	59
Nov.	152.5	100.1	1.9	98.2	101.0	11.8	89.2	63.3	54.3	9.0	58
Dec.	155.7	103.5	2.0	101.5	104.0	11.9	92.1	63.6	54.2	9.4	59
1978											
Jan.	159.5	104.2	2.1	102.1	104.7	12.3	92.4	67.1	57.4	9.7	58
Feb.	161.7	107.8	2.0	105.8	108.5	12.4	96.1	65.6	55.9	9.7	59
Mar.	167.0	113.4	2.0	111.4	118.1	13.1	105.0	62.0	55.6	6.4	63
Apr.	176.0	123.1	2.1	121.0	127.5	13.5	114.0	62.0	55.0	7.0	65
May	185.9	133.7	2.2	131.5	139.2	14.3	124.9	61.0	54.4	6.6	67
June	195.2	130.5	2.2	128.3	134.6	14.7	119.9	75.3	66.9	8.4	61
July	191.6	127.6	2.3	125.3	131.8	15.0	116.8	74.8	66.3	8.5	61
Aug.	189.3	121.0	2.5	118.5	125.8	16.3	109.5	79.8	70.8	9.0	58
Sept.	187.4	124.3	2.5	121.8	130.4	17.4	113.0	74.4	65.6	8.8	60
Oct.	187.6	123.8	2.4	121.4	130.2	17.5	112.7	74.9	66.2	8.7	60
Nov.	187.8	121.6	2.4	119.2	128.3	17.1	111.2	76.6	68.6	8.0	59
Dec.	193.6	128.2	2.5	125.7	134.4	16.9	117.5	76.1	67.9	8.2	61
1979											
Jan.	204.9	141.1	2.6	138.5	145.7	17.6	128.1	76.8	66.4	10.4	63
Feb.	215.3	147.7	2.7	145.0	156.8	19.8	137.0	78.3	70.3	8.0	64
Mar.	225.9	157.5	2.9	154.6	172.7	25.9	146.8	79.1	71.3	7.8	65
Apr.	232.8	163.5	3.1	160.4	181.4	27.8	153.6	79.2	72.4	6.8	66
May	240.2	163.5	3.1	160.4	178.6	28.1	150.5	89.7	79.8	9.9	63
June	233.6	155.5	3.1	152.4	166.0	25.1	140.9	92.7	81.2	11.5	60
July	232.2	150.7	2.7	148.0	161.2	23.6	137.6	94.6	84.2	10.4	59
Aug.	220.9	142.6	2.7	139.9	151.4	21.9	129.5	91.4	81.0	10.4	59
Sept.	226.6	154.6	2.8	151.8	163.6	21.5	142.1	84.5	74.8	9.7	63
Oct.	224.3	148.5	2.6	145.9	157.3	20.4	137.0	87.3	78.4	8.9	61
Nov.	226.2	156.3	2.5	153.8	161.6	19.8	141.8	84.4	72.4	12.0	63
Dec.	232.6	158.3	2.6	155.7	163.9	19.6	144.3	88.3	76.9	11.4	62

[1] Revised series. [2] Estimated weighted average price of retail cuts from Choice Yield Grade 3 carcass. [3] Value of carcass quantity equivalent to 1 lb. of retail cuts. A wholesale carcass equivalent of 1,464 was used prior to 1970, it was increased gradually to 1,476 in 1976 and later years. [4] Portion of gross carcass value attributed to fat and bone trim. [5] Gross carcass value minus carcass byproduct allowance. [6] Market value to producer for quantity of live animal equivalent to 1 lb. of retail cuts. The farm product equivalent of 2.36 was used prior to 1970; it was increased gradually to 2.40 in 1976 and later years. [7] Portion of gross farm value attributed to edible and inedible byproducts. [8] Gross farm value minus farm byproduct allowance. [9] Percent net farm value is of retail price.

Table 10—Pork: Retail, wholesale, and farm values, spreads, and farmers' share, 1965 to present[1]

Year	Retail price[2]	Wholesale value[3]	Gross farm value[4]	Byproduct allowance[5]	Net farm value[6]	Farm-Retail Spread			Farmers' share[7]
						Total	Wholesale-retail	Farm-wholesale	
	Cents/lb.								Percent
1965	65.2	55.8	44.0	3.9	40.1	25.1	9.4	15.7	62
1966	73.4	61.6	48.0	4.1	43.9	29.5	11.8	17.7	60
1967	66.6	55.0	39.2	2.9	36.3	30.3	11.6	18.7	55
1968	66.8	55.3	38.0	2.4	35.6	31.2	11.5	19.7	53
1969	73.6	62.8	46.4	3.7	42.7	30.9	10.8	20.1	58
1970	77.4	63.4	43.0	3.7	39.3	38.1	14.0	24.1	51
1971	69.8	57.0	34.9	2.9	32.0	37.8	12.8	25.0	46
1972	82.7	71.3	49.6	3.4	46.2	36.5	11.4	25.1	56
1973	109.2	95.8	73.8	6.2	67.6	41.6	13.4	28.2	62
1974	107.8	85.5	63.6	6.4	57.2	50.6	22.3	28.3	53
1975	134.6	115.3	86.5	6.6	79.8	54.8	19.3	35.5	59
1976	134.0	105.2	75.8	4.8	71.0	63.0	28.8	34.2	53
1977	125.4	99.0	70.2	4.6	65.6	59.8	26.4	33.4	52
1978	143.6	107.7	82.5	5.9	76.6	67.0	35.9	31.1	53
1973									
I	97.6	87.9	64.8	4.5	60.3	37.3	9.7	27.6	62
II	102.6	87.2	67.0	5.8	61.2	41.4	15.4	26.0	60
III	121.2	111.7	89.2	8.0	81.2	40.0	9.5	30.5	67
IV	115.5	96.5	74.5	6.8	67.7	47.8	19.0	28.8	59
1974									
I	114.8	90.9	68.7	6.7	62.0	52.8	23.9	28.9	54
II	98.9	73.3	50.1	4.7	45.4	53.5	25.6	27.9	46
III	107.0	85.6	65.5	6.5	59.0	48.0	21.4	26.6	55
IV	110.6	92.2	69.9	7.4	62.5	48.1	18.4	29.7	56
1975									
I	114.1	95.2	69.3	5.5	63.7	50.4	18.9	31.5	56
II	122.7	107.5	81.1	6.3	74.8	47.9	15.2	32.7	61
III	148.8	132.0	103.6	7.9	95.7	53.1	16.8	36.3	64
IV	152.9	126.6	91.9	6.6	85.2	67.7	26.3	41.4	56
1976									
I	141.2	112.1	83.0	5.4	77.6	63.6	29.1	34.5	55
II	138.2	112.9	85.1	5.3	79.8	58.4	25.3	33.1	58
III	137.1	104.5	75.9	5.0	70.9	66.2	32.6	33.6	52
IV	119.6	91.5	59.2	3.7	55.5	64.1	28.1	36.0	46
1977									
I	120.5	95.0	66.4	4.5	61.9	58.6	25.5	33.1	51
II	121.7	96.6	69.4	4.8	64.6	57.1	25.1	32.0	53
III	131.0	100.9	74.5	4.8	69.7	61.3	30.1	31.2	53
IV	128.2	103.3	70.4	4.4	66.0	62.2	24.9	37.3	52
1978									
I	137.0	104.8	80.7	5.6	75.1	61.9	32.2	29.7	55
II	142.4	105.6	81.3	5.8	75.5	66.9	36.8	30.1	53
III	144.7	107.6	82.4	6.0	76.4	68.3	37.1	31.2	53
IV	150.1	112.7	85.3	6.1	79.2	70.9	37.4	33.5	53
1977									
Jan.	119.5	96.4	67.2	4.4	62.8	56.7	23.1	33.6	53
Feb.	121.0	95.8	68.3	4.7	63.6	57.4	25.2	32.2	53
Mar.	120.9	92.8	63.8	4.5	59.3	61.6	28.1	33.5	49
Apr.	118.8	91.4	62.8	4.5	58.3	60.5	27.4	33.1	49
May	120.8	97.2	71.0	5.0	66.0	54.8	23.6	31.2	55
June	125.6	101.3	74.6	4.9	69.7	55.9	24.3	31.6	56
July	132.0	103.9	77.8	5.1	72.7	59.3	28.1	31.2	55
Aug.	130.2	101.3	75.4	4.8	70.6	59.6	28.9	30.7	54
Sept.	130.7	97.7	70.4	4.5	65.9	64.8	33.0	31.8	50
Oct.	126.8	100.7	69.4	4.4	65.0	61.8	26.1	35.7	51
Nov.	127.4	102.4	66.9	4.2	62.7	64.7	25.0	39.7	49
Dec.	130.5	106.7	74.8	4.5	70.3	60.2	23.8	36.4	54
1978									
Jan.	133.8	101.7	78.2	5.2	73.0	60.8	32.1	28.7	55
Feb.	138.0	106.9	83.0	5.6	77.4	60.6	31.1	29.5	56
Mar.	139.2	105.8	80.8	6.0	74.8	64.4	33.4	31.0	54
Apr.	141.6	104.6	78.3	5.6	72.7	68.9	37.0	31.9	51
May	141.4	106.9	83.6	5.9	77.7	63.7	34.5	29.2	55
June	144.2	105.4	82.1	6.0	76.1	68.1	38.8	29.3	53
July	144.2	104.7	79.6	5.7	73.9	70.3	39.5	30.8	51
Aug.	144.4	107.5	82.8	6.0	76.8	67.6	36.9	30.7	53
Sept.	145.5	110.7	85.0	6.4	78.6	66.9	34.8	32.1	54
Oct.	149.4	114.8	89.1	6.5	82.6	66.8	34.6	32.2	55
Nov.	150.4	111.0	82.4	5.8	76.6	73.8	39.4	34.4	51
Dec.	150.5	112.2	84.4	5.9	78.5	72.0	38.3	33.7	52
1979									
Jan.	154.2	116.0	88.6	6.4	82.4	71.8	38.2	33.6	53
Feb.	157.1	116.0	92.3	7.3	85.0	72.1	41.1	31.0	54
Mar.	156.9	109.4	83.6	7.1	76.5	80.4	47.5	32.9	49
Apr.	150.7	103.8	76.7	5.8	70.9	79.8	46.9	32.9	47
May	149.3	99.9	74.2	6.0	68.2	81.1	49.4	31.7	46
June	144.5	96.7	68.5	5.3	63.2	81.3	47.8	33.5	44
July	142.4	93.4	66.3	5.2	61.1	81.3	49.0	32.3	43
Aug.	135.9	92.0	64.8	5.0	59.8	76.1	43.9	32.2	44
Sept.	135.6	94.8	65.7	5.2	60.5	75.1	40.8	34.3	45
Oct.	134.3	90.1	58.9	4.8	54.1	80.2	44.2	36.0	40
Nov.	132.2	96.5	61.8	4.6	57.2	75.0	35.7	39.3	43
Dec.	136.3	95.6	65.4	4.7	60.7	75.6	40.7	34.9	44

[1] Revised series. [2] Estimated weighted average price of retail cuts from pork carcass. [3] Value of wholesale quantity equivalent to 1 lb. of retail cuts. A wholesale carcass equivalent of 1.06 is used for all years. [4] Market values to producer for quantity of live animal equivalent to 1 lb. of retail cuts. The farm product equivalent of 2.12 was used prior to 1959; it was decreased gradually to 1.70 in 1977 and later. [5] Portion of gross farm value attributable to edible and inedible byproducts. [6] Gross farm value minus byproduct allowance. [7] Percent net farm value is of retail price.

Supply and distribution of commercially produced meat, by months, carcass weight

Meat and period	Supply			Distribution				
							Civilian consumption	
	Production[6]	Beginning stocks[4]	Imports	Exports and shipments	Ending stocks[4]	Military	Total	Per person[2]
	Million pounds							Pounds
Beef:								
1978								
November	2,038	348	225	16	388	20	2,187	10.1
December	1,902	388	198	19	405	17	2,047	9.4
1979								
January	2,069	405	226	15	431	23	2,231	10.3
February	1,700	431	213	21	405	14	1,904	8.7
March	1,777	405	239	20	427	11	1,963	9.0
April	1,586	427	222	18	413	15	1,789	8.2
May	1,766	413	216	14	404	11	1,966	9.0
June	1,724	404	239	18	388	18	1,943	8.9
July	1,682	388	186	17	370	18	1,855	8.5
August	1.919	370	152	19	321	14	2,087	9.5
September	1,618	321	154	20	298	13	1,762	8.0
October	1,940	298	149	15	308	8	2,056	9.4
November	1,778	308	201	18	322	12	1,935	8.8
December	1,694	322	209		354	17		
Veal:								
1978								
November	45	8	4	1	8	1	47	.2
December	41	8	4	1	9	([3])	43	.2
1979								
January	41	9	2	1	10	1	40	.2
February	35	10	2	1	8	([3])	38	.2
March	39	8	3	1	9	1	39	.2
April	33	9	2	1	9	([3])	34	.2
May	33	9	2	1	9	1	33	.2
June	32	9	1	([3])	8	([3])	34	.1
July	34	8	1	([3])	8	([3])	35	.2
August	34	8	1	([3])	7	([3])	36	.2
September	31	7	1	1	7	1	30	.1
October	37	7	2	([3])	8	([3])	38	.2
November	34	8	4	([3])	9	([3])	37	.2
December	30	9	6		10	1		
Lamb and Mutton:								
1978								
,November	25	12	2	([3])	12	([3])	27	.1
December	24	12	3	1	12	([3])	26	.1
1979								
January	23	12	4	([3])	11	([3])	28	.1
February	22	11	3	([3])	11	([3])	25	.1
March	27	11	6	([3])	12	([3])	32	.2
April	25	12	5	([3])	12	([3])	30	.1
May	25	12	3	([3])	13	([3])	27	.1
June	21	13	6	1	11	([3])	28	.2
July	23	11	3	([3])	12	([3])	25	.1
August	23	12	3	([3])	12	([3])	26	.1
September	23	12	3	1	11	([3])	26	.1
October	26	11	3	([3])	12	([3])	28	.1
November	23	12	2	([3])	11		26	.1
December	23	11	2		11	1		
Pork:[5]								
1978								
November	1,236	207	40	48	245	9	1,181	5.4
December	1,129	245	40	40	242	10	1,122	5.2
1979								
January	1,147	242	43	36	225	13	1,158	5.3
February	1,001	225	36	27	220	8	1,007	4.6
March	1,251	220	44	33	247	8	1,227	5.6
April	1,238	247	47	38	278	7	1,209	5.5
May	1,309	278	40	42	292	13	1,280	5.9
,June	1,213	292	51	38	270	10	1,238	5.7
July	1,221	270	39	36	227	8	1,259	5.8
August	1,352	227	37	34	182	8	1,392	6.4
September	1,206	182	35	40	179	11	1,193	5.4
October	1,553	179	39	43	220	6	1,502	6.9
November	1,471	220	44	37	258	8	1,344	6.1
December	1,328	258	44		283	8		
Total Meat:								
1978								
November	3,344	575	271	65	653	30	3,442	15.8
December	3,096	653	245	61	668	27	3,238	14.9
1979								
January	3,280	668	275	52	677	37	3,457	15.9
February	2,758	677	254	49	644	22	2,974	13.6
March	3,094	644	292	54	695	20	3,261	15.0
April	2,882	695	276	57	712	23	3,062	14.0
May	3,133	712	261	57	718	25	3,306	15.2
June	2,990	718	297	57	677	28	3,243	14.9
July	2,960	677	229	53	617	22	3,174	14.6
August	3,328	617	193	53	526	22	3,541	16,2
September	2,879	522	193	62	495	25	3,011	13.6
October	3,556	495	193	58	548	14	3,624	16.6
November	3,306	548	261	55	600	20	3,342	15.2
December	3,075	600			658	27		

[1] Excludes production from farm slaughter. [2] Derived from estimates by months of population eating out of civilian food supplies. [3] Less than 500,000 lb. [4] Beginning 1977, excludes beef and pork stocks in cooler. [3] Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the meats listed.

Selected price statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	1979									1980
	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
	Dollars per 100 pounds									
SLAUGHTER STEERS:										
Omaha:										
Choice, 900-1100 lb.	75.00	73.99	68.53	67.06	62.74	67.84	65.81	67.00	67.78	66.32
Good, 900-1100 lb.	70.15	69.86	64.55	61.31	57.48	60.49	61.27	62.35	63.06	61.89
California, Choice 900-1100 lb.	77.69	76.10	69.19	68.38	63.70	68.88	64.90	70.44	69.94	—
Colorado, Choice 900-1100 lb.	75.13	74.61	69.68	68.49	63.25	68.43	65.04	67.51	—	—
Texas, Choice 900-1100 lb.	75.72	75.73	70.48	69.25	63.50	68.80	65.49	68.15	69.66	67.17
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS:										
Omaha:										
Choice, 900-1100 lb.	73.06	72.48	67.80	64.79	60.94	65.90	63.87	65.02	66.50	61.30
Good, 700-900 lb.	67.54	67.08	63.48	60.55	55.13	59.58	58.42	59.38	61.41	60.77
COWS:										
Omaha:										
Commercial	58.08	56.07	51.16	47.50	46.70	48.64	46.90	15.66	46.15	46.99
Utility	57.00	55.51	50.60	47.80	48.33	49.65	47.71	46.49	46.98	47.94
Cutter	54.86	53.42	48.18	45.80	46.59	48.32	46.06	44.12	44.55	45.49
Canner	52.47	50.84	45.79	43.32	44.13	46.24	44.37	42.21	41.81	42.54
VEALERS:										
Choice, S. St. Paul	104.56	110.35	94.25	92.29	88.74	96.68	96.48	73.88	70.00	70.00
FEEDER STEERS:[1]										
Kansas City:										
Medium No. 1, 400-500 lb.	105.62	106.68	96.38	98.72	98.39	104.29	94.04	92.99	93.84	91.64
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb.	89.98	88.32	82.19	82.48	79.31	85.34	81.29	82.44	82.80	80.52
Medium No. 2, 600-700 lb.	79.32	78.53	75.28	74.94	71.59	75.14	71.80	72.48	72.25	—
All weights and grades	86.83	82.20	75.00	72.07	72.37	77.81	73.34	78.92	77.55	76.52
Amarillo:										
Medium No.1, 600-700 lb.	90.26	85.90	75.74	79.00	76.13	80.88	78.43	80.78	80.85	—
Georgia Auctions:										
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb.	84.88	79.90	75.38	73.83	70.10	74.88	70.20	71.12	68.50	—
Medium No. 2, 400-500 lb.	93.62	88.20	82.25	83.50	78.70	80.75	75.20	78.12	74.33	—
FEEDER HEIFERS:										
Kansas City:										
Medium No. 1, 400-500 lb.	90.69	89.18	83.15	83.52	79.39	86.53	79.02	77.36	78.66	76.83
Medium No. 1, 600-700 lb.	78.86	76.80	74.32	73.88	69.18	75.07	71.40	71.49	72.35	71.66
SLAUGHTER HOGS:										
Barrows and Gilts:										
Omaha:										
Nos. 1 & 2, 200-230 lb.	45.99	44.78	41.61	40.46	38.92	39.28	35.21	37.33	39.86	38.41
All weights	44.91	43.43	39.46	38.17	37.71	38.42	34.62	35.47	37.75	37.29
Sioux City	45.29	43.80	39.94	38.58	38.41	38.80	34.92	36.13	38.30	37.58
7 markets[2]	45.04	43.79	40.29	38.73	38.21	38.62	34.70	36.01	38.45	37.49
Sows:										
7 markets[2]	42.09	39.59	33.62	30.70	30.38	32.63	30.07	29.39	30.80	33.52
FEEDER PIGS:										
Nos. 1 & 2, So. Mo., 40-50 lb. (per hd.)	50.84	40.89	30.11	24.14	24.58	29.30	23.10	26.35	25.82	29.52
SLAUGHTER LAMBS:										
Lambs, Choice, San Angelo	78.62	73.20	68.83	65.83	62.65	67.75	66.50	—	—	—
Lambs, Choice, So. St. Paul	71.40	66.18	60.90	62.29	59.75	65.92	62.76	62.08	66.00	63.62
Ewes, Good, San Angelo	42.12	32.85	28.88	31.83	29.60	28.56	25.55	27.00	—	26.50
Ewes, Good, So. St. Paul	28.50	24.14	21.28	22.34	22.68	22.48	17.68	17.00	20.70	21.00
FEEDER LAMBS:										
Choice, San Angelo	89.75	76.15	71.12	70.25	71.00	74.25	70.00	73.00	—	77.88
Choice, So. St. Paul	67.50	67.50	67.50	68.12	66.50	68.42	70.04	67.82	69.70	71.10
FARM PRICES:										
Beef cattle:	72.40	71.50	66.90	65.60	61.30	66.90	65.10	64.20	64.70	64.30
Calves	96.40	96.70	90.20	90.00	84.60	91.60	86.70	85.10	84.40	86.00
Hogs	44.30	43.60	39.70	37.90	35.50	37.50	34.00	34.40	37.50	36.60
Sheep	29.90	26.60	24.80	25.80	26.20	26.10	25.10	25.50	24.70	26.00
Lambs	69.80	70.10	67.00	65.00	61.10	67.00	65.40	64.70	66.30	67.70
MEAT PRICES:										
Wholesale:										
Central U.S. markets										
Steer beef, Choice, 600-700 lb.	108.61	108.64	103.56	99.85	94.13	101.91	98.32	103.22	105.53	102.26
Heifer beef, Choice, 500-600 lb.	107.14	107.34	102.28	98.07	92.63	99.00	96.91	100.94	104.07	—
Cow beef, Canner and Cutter	109.26	105.22	97.12	95.08	103.50	94.62	97.59	96.17	96.72	—
Pork loins, 8-14 lb.	95.11	92.06	96.43	87.62	83.98	88.41	80.07	74.12	83.97	—
Pork bellies, 12-14 lb.	51.88	46.57	44.09	38.95	36.51	38.63	33.51	43.72	40.88	—
Hams, skinned, 14-17 lb.	76.47	72.29	70.17	64.48	66.84	70.64	75.84	87.91	80.15	—
East Coast:										
Lamb, Choice and Prime, 35-45 lb.	150.92	140.15	132.86	126.38	119.78	128.40	125.35	125.85	131.72	—
Lamb, Choice and Prime, 55-65 lb.	134.88	131.35	128.81	123.33	117.55	128.05	123.85	123.19	127.03	—
West Coast:										
Steer Beef, Choice, 600-700 lb.	113.11	112.96	105.40	104.42	100.01	108.14	103.53	111.15	110.57	—
Retail:										
Beef, Choice	232.8	240.2	233.6	232.2	220.9	226.6	224.3	226.2	232.6	—
Veal	273.1	289.1	294.4	294.1	293.2	298.2	296.6	298.5	299.8	—
Pork	150.7	149.3	144.5	142.4	135.9	135.6	134.3	132.2	136.3	—
Lamb	248.6	250.7	251.1	248.0	244.8	244.8	242.9	247.3	243.4	—
Price Indexes (BLS, 1967=100)										
Retail meat	248.2	252.1	249.6	248.0	237.8	238.1	238.6	237.4	242.3	—
Beef and veal	262.5	270.3	266.9	266.4	251.9	254.2	256.2	255.5	262.2	—
Pork	225.9	222.2	217.2	215.1	207.4	206.5	204.3	201.0	205.0	—
Other meats	239.4	244.0	248.9	245.1	243.5	240.2	240.7	242.0	243.0	—
Poultry	189.9	188.0	187.2	186.2	177.1	174.8	170.3	171.6	176.2	—
LIVESTOCK-FEED RATIOS, OMAHA[3]										
Beef steer-corn	33.2	30.8	26.4	24.7	25.7	26.5	28.1	28.9	28.7	29.3
Hog-corn	19.9	18.1	15.2	14.1	15.4	16.2	14.6	15.3	16.0	16.5

[1] Reflects new feeder cattle grades. [2] St. Louis, N.S.Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, S. St. Paul, and Indianapolis. [3] Bushels of No. 2 yellow corn equivalent in value of 100 pounds liveweight.

Selected marketings, slaughter and stock statistics for meat animals and meat

Item	Unit	1979 Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
FEDERALLY INSPECTED:													
Slaughter:													
Cattle	1,000 head	3,090	2,559	2,670	2,366	2,622	2,554	2,492	2,860	2,390	2,837	2,593	2,470
Steers	1,000 head	1,605	1,352	1,402	1,247	1,393	1,380	1,289	1,469	1,205	1,396	1,254	1,265
Heifers	1,000 head	886	724	748	653	727	719	750	886	733	867	755	665
Cows	1,000 head	549	440	475	424	452	408	404	451	402	514	533	494
Bulls and stags	1,000 head	50	43	46	42	49	47	49	54	51	59	51	47
Calves	1,000 head	265	212	245	200	188	162	190	216	193	225	210	192
Sheep and lambs	1,000 head	391	354	431	425	421	371	384	415	410	455	386	389
Hogs	1,000 head	6,393	5,693	7,113	6,962	7,284	6,678	6,734	7,662	6,840	8,736	8,097	7,234
Percentage sows	Percent	5	5	4	4	4	5	7	7	6	6	7	9
Average liveweight per head:													
Cattle	Pounds	1,070	1,058	1,063	1,064	1,065	1,063	1,061	1,060	1,064	1,075	1,080	1,087
Calves	Pounds	201	206	200	215	227	237	224	204	203	210	198	201
Sheep and lambs	Pounds	115	118	120	115	115	112	112	110	112	113	114	116
Hogs	Pounds	241	237	238	240	243	246	246	240	240	242	245	246
Average dressed weight:													
Beef	Pounds	635	629	630	634	639	642	640	640	642	648	646	648
Veal	Pounds	122	127	123	130	140	146	137	126	124	130	121	121
Lamb and mutton	Pounds	58	59	61	58	57	56	56	55	55	56	57	59
Pork	Pounds	172	169	170	172	174	175	175	171	170	171	174	175
Production:													
Beef	Mil. lb.	1,952	1,603	1,678	1,494	1,671	1,634	1,589	1,824	1,529	1,831	1,667	1,594
Veal	Mil. lb.	32	27	30	26	26	23	26	27	24	29	25	23
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	23	21	26	25	24	20	21	22	22	25	22	23
Pork	Mil. lb.	1,096	959	1,205	1,192	1,263	1,170	1,178	1,304	1,161	1,494	1,405	1,262
COMMERCIAL:													
Slaughter:[1]													
Cattle	1,000 head	3,304	2,736	2,852	2,533	2,792	2,715	2,659	3,030	2,549	3,034	2,795	2,651
Calves	1,000 head	296	240	272	223	214	193	218	241	217	254	240	216
Sheep and lambs	1,000 head	402	364	444	444	434	385	400	435	427	474	403	403
Hogs	1,000 head	6,696	5,947	7,397	7,237	7,564	6,940	7,002	7,956	7,118	9,098	8,496	7,637
Production:													
Beef	Mil. lb.	2,069	1,700	1,778	1,586	1,765	1,724	1,682	1,919	1,618	1,940	1,778	1,694
Veal	Mil. lb.	41	35	38	33	33	32	34	34	31	37	34	30
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	23	22	27	25	25	21	22	23	23	26	23	23
Pork	Mil. lb.	1,147	1,001	1,251	1,238	1,309	1,213	1,221	1,352	1,206	1,553	1,471	1,328
COLD STORAGE STOCKS FIRST OF MONTH:[2]													
Beef	Mil. lb.	405	431	405	427	413	404	388	370	321	298	308	322
Veal	Mil. lb.	9	10	8	9	9	9	8	8	7	7	8	9
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	12	11	11	12	12	13	11	12	12	11	12	11
Pork	Mil. lb.	242	225	220	247	278	292	270	227	182	179	220	258
Total meat and meat products[3]	Mil. lb.	724	736	711	763	785	791	747	688	579	551	606	658
FOREIGN TRADE:													
Imports: (carcass weight)													
Beef and veal	Mil. lb.	228	215	242	224	218	240	187	153	154	150	150	214
Pork	Mil. lb.	43	36	44	47	40	51	39	37	35	40	44	44
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	4	3	6	5	3	6	3	3	3	3	2	2
Exports: (carcass weight)													
Beef and veal	Mil. lb.	11.26	17.08	15.78	15.77	10.51	14.05	13.73	14.69	16.32	12.16	13.45	15.46
Pork	Mil. lb.	24.32	17.45	20.40	23.48	28.82	15.54	24.38	19.90	27.39	28.83	19.66	30.49
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	.18	.14	.05	.06	.08	.12	.08	.08	.11	.19	.16	.11
Live animal imports:													
Cattle	Number	97,289	46,654	42,037	40,527	48,876	27,594	19,550	18,329	20,261	38,689	132,370	200,136
Hogs	Number	33,206	17,189	14,698	3,982	13,281	7,201	5,781	4,960	6,459	5,870	7,419	16,510
Sheep and lambs	Number	751	461	4	8	79	28	36	345	609	3,728	2,787	642
Live animal exports:													
Cattle	Number	4,517	7,169	5,213	4,694	4,352	7,539	6,903	7,987	3,847	4,860	3,034	6,058
Hogs	Number	1,020	390	624	985	1,394	809	2,201	959	806	1,846	1,229	1,186
Sheep and lambs	Number	3,783	4,541	8,597	23,962	9,562	11,986	18,732	14,830	9,772	8,710	4,867	6,053

[1] Federally inspected and other commercial. [2] Beginning Jan. 1977 excludes beef and pork stocks in cooler. [3] Includes stocks of canned meats in cooler in addition to the meats listed.

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